Explosion, fire expose Cavite shabu laboratory

Story on PAGE A2

IN *today's issue*

- **Erap leader out on bail**
  NEWS /A7
- **Joe Salazar's grand designs**
  SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE
- **TNT seeks 1st ever title**
  SPORTS /A26
- **Job Market**
  SECTION K

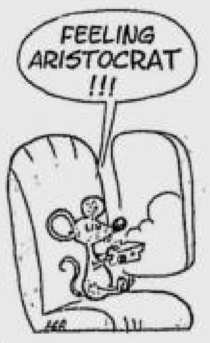
PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

This rat's a jet-setter

SYDNEY—A high-flying rat criss-crossed Australia for two weeks and forced Qantas Airways to ground a Boeing 737 jet three times before finally expiring when the plane was pumped full of gas.

"The airline is happy to carry demo-

THIS RAT'S/ A19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email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph July 13, 2003 ★★ 104 pages / 12 sections / vol. 18 / no. 215 P15 website: www.inq7.net

Gov't may take over SMC

UCPB ruling would apply to cases involving Danding shares

THROUGH A GLASS CLEARLY
A small fire sparked the discovery of a big laboratory manufacturing shabu in Barangay Cabangaan, Silang, Cavite. President Macapagal is briefed by police officer Joy Cabal on the lab's equipment and chemicals. Six suspects, including four Chinese nationals, were arrested. *(Story on Page A2.)*
EDWIN BACASMAS

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan, Clarissa S. Batino and Elena R. Torrijos

THE GOVERNMENT is now in a stronger position to recover the San Miguel Corp. and other prime assets allegedly acquired by businessman Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco and other Marcos cronies using coconut levy funds following the Sandiganbayan's landmark ruling on Friday.

"It's now just a matter of time," said a confident Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo, explaining that the court ruling forfeiting the Cojuangco-claimed shares in the United Coconut Planters Bank (UCPB) in favor of the government "would set a precedent" for the other coco levy forfeiture cases against Cojuangco and officers of the Philippine Coconut Producers Federation (Cocofed).

"We have not won the war but we have won a crucial battle," said Marcelo, the former solicitor general who steered the coco levy fund cases through the anti-graft court.

Ruben Carranza, commissioner of the Presidential Commission on Good Government, said the UCPB ruling would apply to the other cases involving shares in the name of Cojuangco corporations in SMC and various businesses under the Coconut Industry Investment Fund (CIIF).

"This closes the door. It's now indisputable that UCPB and the coco levy funds used to buy UCPB and other (coco levy) assets are public. This is a conclusive ruling," he said.

Carranza said the 47-percent sequestered SMC shares "went through the same maneuver" as the UCPB shares, which the Sandiganbayan said Cojuangco and his associates bought using the coco levy funds.

Of the 47 percent SMC shares, Cojuangco claims 20 percent for his own while the other 27 percent is under the CIIF. Most of the other coco-levy acquired assets had been placed in the name of holding companies under the CIIF.

The UCPB administers the entire coco levy fund, including the 27 percent SMC shares.

"In effect, if the coconut levy funds are declared public, then the San Miguel shares are also public," said one industry source who requested anonymity.

The implication of the ruling is that

GOV'T/ A6

Maceda: Timing of court verdict suspicious

By Peter P. Dejaresco
PDI Visayas Bureau

TAGBILARAN CITY—Businessman Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco yesterday said he was completely taken by surprise by the Sandiganbayan anti-graft court's ruling taking away his shareholdings in the United Coconut Planters Bank and awarding them to the government.

His close allies and opposition leaders accused Malacañang of having had a hand in the decision, suggesting that Cojuangco's contemplated run for the presidency may be unsettling the current Palace tenant.

Ernesto Maceda, the former senator who is chair emeritus of Cojuangco's Nationalist People's Coalition, said only the Macapagal administration "has the motivation" to make the court hand down a decision when it did.

"The timing is very suspicious because [the ruling came out] when there has been a lot of publicity [about his candidacy] ... when he's going around the country [to test the waters]," Maceda said in a phone interview.

"I hope the Sandiganbayan does not allow itself to be used for political purposes," he said.

As for appealing the decision, Maceda said Cojuangco's lawyer Estelito Mendoza "knows what to do."

"We have been waiting for 16 long years but we were not given the chance to present our counter-evidence. The decision came totally as a surprise to us," Cojuangco told a forum at the Bohol

MACEDA/ A6

Ex-SolGen wants Danding charged

By Philip C. Tubeza

LAWYER Francisco Chavez yesterday said the government should file criminal charges against businessman Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco and his associates for allegedly dissipating the coco levy funds even as millions of small coconut farmers across the country celebrated their "sweet victory" over Cojuangco.

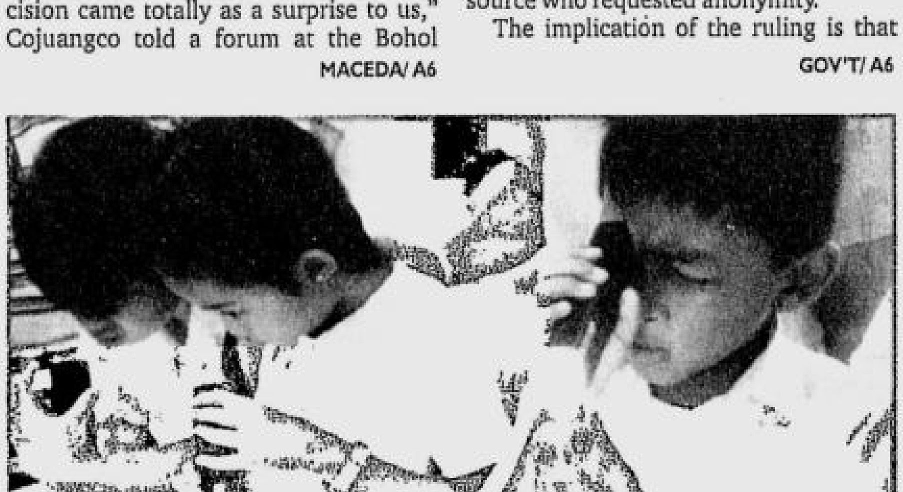
Chavez, who initiated the case against Cojuangco when he was solicitor general during the Aquino administration, also called for an audit of Cojuangco's and his associates' wealth so that the money and assets they earned using the coco levy proceeds could be returned to the people.

Chavez said the charges "could even be plunder."

While there was still no plunder law when the coco levy was instituted during the Marcos dictatorship, Cojuangco and his associates' alleged crime was "a continuing offense" since they are still profiting from the use of the funds, Chavez explained.

He said Cojuangco and his associates should be made to account for their incomes from the time they used the co-

EX-SOLGEN/ A6



ERNIE U.SARMIENTO

HANDS-ON science experiments at the Padre Imo Luna Elementary School in San Jose, Batangas, is based on the Family Science Education Program developed by the University of California at Berkeley that provides the basics of science and how it connects to daily life.

TOO MANY, too soon? It happened to Avelina Castaneda (in yellow dress) who is surprised at her own strength and that all her children are alive and well.

Supermom of 17 going strong at 71

By Jo Clemente
PDI Central Luzon Desk

TARLAC CITY—Seventy-one-year-old Avelina Castaneda will never make it as a poster girl for family planning.

From 1951 to 1962, she gave birth to her first 12 children. In that span, she became pregnant almost as soon as she gave birth.

On the 13th year, when she was barely 30, she rested—but only for three years.

After that lull, she gave birth to two more children in succession. Four years later, she was at it again, but it was apparent that she was slowing down. With gaps of two to three years, she delivered

SUPERMOM/ A19

Batangas kids learn science program the Berkeley way

By Charles E. Buban
Special Sections

SAN JOSE, Batangas—Elementary school pupils and their parents at the Pangalaalang Paaralang Padre Imo Luna were hunched over tables, busy with their science experiments.

Some groups were differentiating salt crystals from sugar crystals, others were describing what an insect's legs look like when magnified eight times.

Padre Imo Luna is no different from other public elementary schools in the country's rural communities: it has a small teaching force and limited books and materials. In fact, it has only one microscope.

Yet students, parents and teachers at

BATANGAS/ A19

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COMPILED BY: CHONA GALANG, PDI RESEARCH/07/13/03

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Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Mostly Cloudy
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Mostly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Mostly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Mostly Cloudy
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GMA admits shortcomings in war against illegal drugs

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo admitted shortcomings in the war on drugs Saturday even as police busted what they called a major amphetamine lab and arrested four Chinese nationals and two Filipinos. *(See related story.)*

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She reiterated that she had set aside a P1- billion war chest against illegal drugs, a tenfold increase over previous funding.

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Some of the parents complained that drug pushers continued to roam their localities. One parent said she was afraid her son would get hooked again once he got out of rehabilitation because of the availability of drugs in their area in Balintawak, Quezon City.

The President asked the police officials present what was being done in Balintawak and PDEA Deputy Director General Rodolfo Caisip said the police knew of the pushers roaming the vicinity.

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Abalos said the local government code listed only seven grounds for disqualifying a candidate, and these did not include failing a drug test. *Martin P. Marfil*

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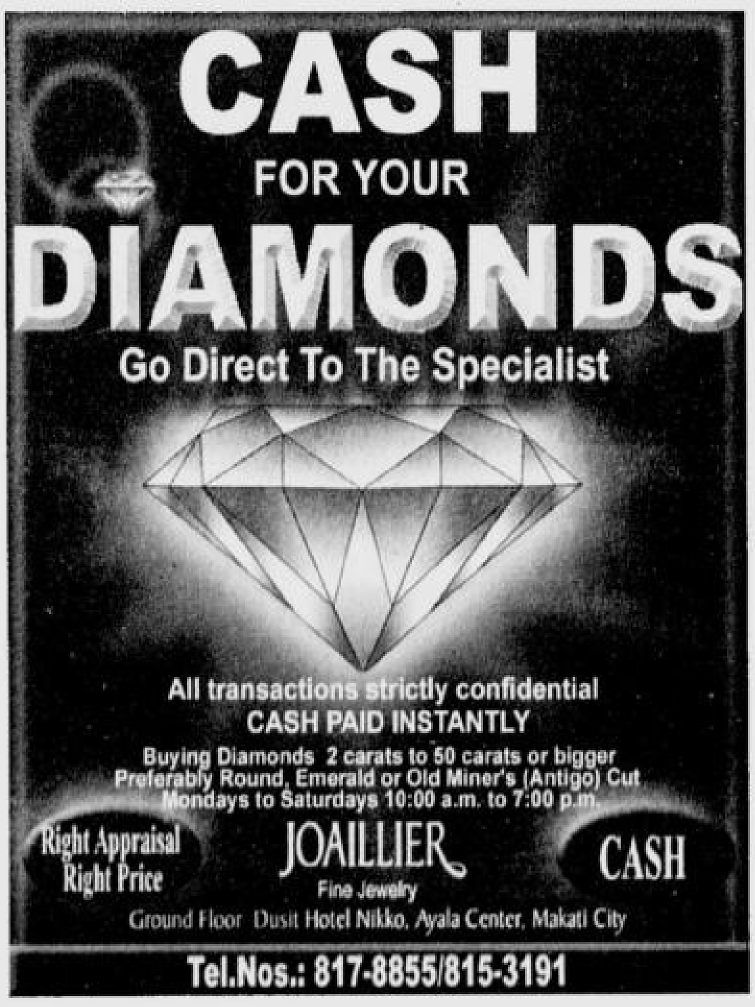

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E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

Second FRONT PAGE

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‘Sweatshop’ started something–Sto. Tomas

LABOR Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas believes the Anvil Ensembles case has stirred up enough interest to boost the government’s campaign against sweatshops.

In an interview on Friday, Sto. Tomas said at least three labor federations have “made the commitment” to furnish her with lists of companies operating in “sweatshop conditions.”

To add teeth to the campaign, Sto. Tomas said, the Garments and Textile Export Board will not give firms that are not “socially compliant” their export quotas.

For its part, the Department of Labor and Employment would impose fines on violators.

The labor chief’s remarks came in the wake of reports that Anvil, a Taytay-based garments factory, had underpaid employees and, when trying to meet production quotas during peak seasons, offered them an insomnia-inducing drug so they could work for up to three days straight.

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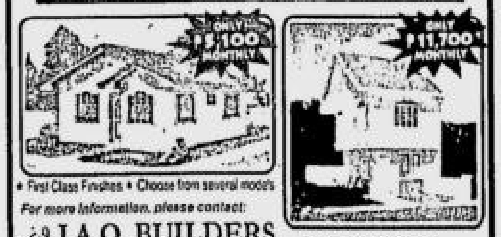

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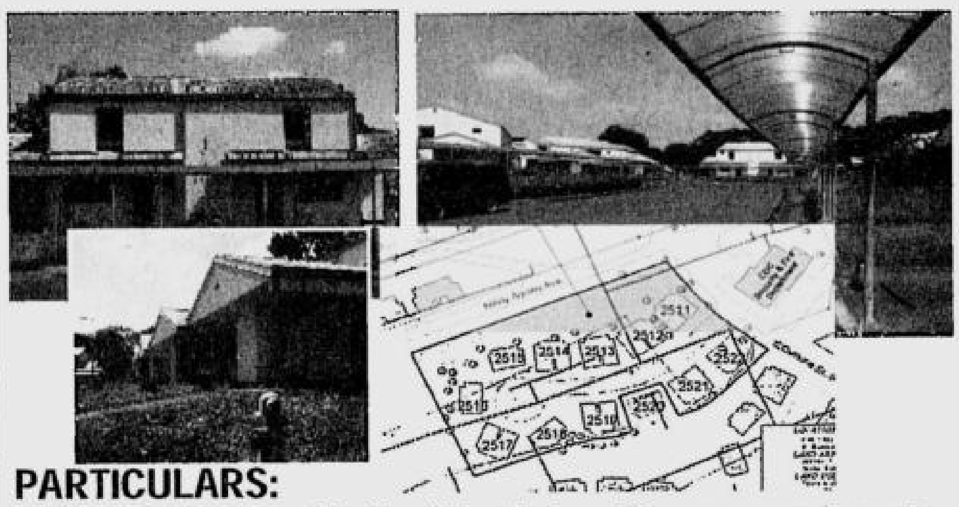

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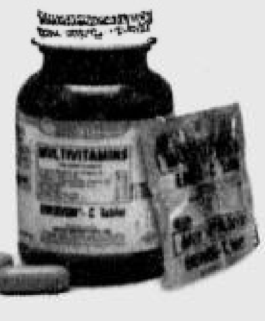

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Probers find link between Koronadal, Davao blasts

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Forensics experts have found evidence linking last week's deadly blast in Koronadal City to similar explosions in Davao City earlier this year, Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes said Saturday.

The device that went off in Koronadal City on Thursday killing three people left the same residue as two other bombs that went off in Davao City in March and April, killing almost 40 people, Reyes said.

The bomb blasts in Davao were blamed on the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

Reyes said, however, he could not conclude that the MILF was behind the Koronadal bombing until the investigation is completed.

"Of course the MILF is a suspect and of course the MILF will deny (they are involved)," Reyes told reporters.

Denied charges

The MILF had previously denied charges it was involved in the bombings in Koronadal and Davao, two predominantly Christian cities.

Both Manila and the MILF are working to re-start stalled peace talks but President Macapagal-Arroyo has warned that further negotiations may be sidetracked if the MILF is found to be behind the Koronadal explosion.

Reyes stressed the government has already established links between the MILF and the Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) Muslim extremist group blamed for the Bali bombing last year as well as other bombings in Southeast Asia.

The JI is said to be the Southeast Asian chapter of the al-Qaida network of Osama bin Laden.

But with "good offers" coming its way, including multimillion-dollar US aid, the MILF has no more reason to dilly-dally with the resumption of the stalled peace talks, Reyes said.

Reyes said the MILF hierarchy should stop vacillating because it has a lot of good reasons to restart the talks, citing the recent US offer to provide up to $50 million in aid to the rebels once a peace agreement is signed.

Peace monitoring

On top of this, the Organization of the Islamic Conference is also set to send a peace monitoring team to Mindanao to fast-track the resumption of negotiations between the government and the secessionist movement, he said.

"The OIC member-countries are currently organizing a 25-man peacekeeping team which will implement a ceasefire agreement as the DFA had stated. Even the US has offered $50 million for the rebels," Reyes said in a statement.

"That's why there's no more reason for the peace talks to be further delayed," he added.

MILF spokesperson Eid Kabalu had welcomed the US offer, but said the organization will not rush into a final peace agreement. He stressed any pact should be "just and acceptable to the Bangsamoro people."

US Ambassador Francis Ricciardone announced last week that the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) would be providing $30 million, on top of $74 million already promised the government for development, if peace was attained in Mindanao. The $30 million and half of the $74 million are to go to Mindanao, he said.

Reyes also said President Macapagal's recent declaration that the government was open to lifting the arrest warrants for chair Salamat Hashim and other key MILF leaders was a "clear sign of the government's sincerity" in restarting the talks.

The MILF leaders had been charged in connection with the recent spate of bombings in Mindanao.

"The government's position has not changed. We still want peace because if there's violence, it's the civilians and soldiers who suffer," Reyes said.

Ms Macapagal's declaration, which came with a request for the MILF to move to have the warrants quashed was shot down by the secessionist group, leading to an impasse anew.

Hierarchy

The MILF hierarchy said it didn't recognize the Constitution and, hence, would never submit to the jurisdiction of the local courts.

Kabalu had said the MILF would rather wait for the next administration after May 2004 if the government keeps stalling the talks with such demands.

Despite the government's peace overtures, the military would remain on alert against any attacks by the separatist movement and other groups such as the New People's Army and the Abu Sayyaf, Reyes said. *TJ Burgonio; AFP*

FORMER President Corazon Aquino appears to be in her element, sharing a hearty laugh and good vibrations with members of the Cartwheel Foundation, young people who are out to help indigenous youth get an education. JOAN BONDOC

No rallies, endorsement for Cory

By Ceres Doyo

THERE will be no political rallies to mark the 20th death anniversary of the late Sen. Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino Jr. on Aug. 21, said his widow, former President Corazon Aquino yesterday.

Instead, Mrs. Aquino said, she has formed a new "people power" movement to honor this year 20 foundations that have been helping the poor. The Cartwheel Foundation was 15th on her list, she said.

"We want to give people hope," the Philippines' first woman president told foundation members. "What you do should be replicated. When I was your age, I might not have been able to do what you are doing."

Mrs. Aquino was the keynote speaker at the first general assembly of the Cartwheel Foundation which helps indigenous groups gain access to education. The assembly was held at the Ateneo de Manila University in Loyola Heights, Quezon City.

Mrs. Aquino also said she is not going to campaign for any candidate in next year's presidential elections, preferring instead to concentrate on the people power movement that will work with the charitable foundations.

"We want these foundations to meet each other. We want people to know about the good that they do," she said.

The Cartwheel Foundation has several ongoing projects in Mindanao among the indigenous groups. Cartwheel members are young people, mostly in their 20s and 30s.

Pounding of Abu continues despite error

PALIMBANG, Sultan Kudarat—Air Force planes, helicopter gun ships and artillery fire yesterday continued to pound the positions of the Abu Sayyaf under Khadaffy Janjalani in Barangay Upper Butril here.

Military and civilian officials said they were certain the targets were hit but they could not yet provide casualty figures.

One aerial bombing run against the Abu Sayyaf on Thursday, however, accidentally killed one soldier, officials said Friday.

Air Force spokesperson Maj. Restituto Padilla said investigation showed a malfunction in the OV-10 plane's armament system was to blame for the incident.

"It was purely an accident. The aircraft aborted its delivery (of a bomb) to allow a second aircraft to deliver its load, but while it was ascending the bomb fell," Padilla said. "Things like this happen even in Iraq, in Afghanistan."

He said all Air Force OV-10 planes have been grounded for inspection, but air operations using helicopters continue against the Abu Sayyaf on Cabungan island.

Janjalani and some 50 of his men docked in this town last Saturday, it was believed, to seek refuge from the intense military operation against them in Basilan, Sulu and other parts of Western Mindanao.

Southern Command chief Lt. Gen. Roy Kyamko arrived here on Thursday to oversee the progress of the operation.

At least four Army battalions are hunting down Janjalani's group, which reportedly joined forces with local kidnap gangs, the Abu Sufia and the Pentagon.

The Philippine Navy has put up a blockade consisting of two gun ships and three cutters to seal the area.

"We are progressing well," said Brig. Gen. Alexander Yano of the Army's 601st Infantry Brigade, of the operation.

Mayor Labualas Mamansual said he saw bombs exploding in Upper Butril.

"Upper Butril is visible from our position and we saw when the bombs hit the site where the bandits temporarily set up camps," Mamansual said.

In the mistaken bombing, two Air Force planes on Thursday bombed suspected positions of a group headed by Isnilon Hapilon, one of five Abu Sayyaf leaders sought by Washington for the killing of two Americans, said army First Infantry Division chief Maj. Gen. Trifonio Salazar. *Aquiles Z. Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau; AP*

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Survey says 42% of Metro respondents favor Cha-cha

By Cynthia D. Balana

THE CAMPAIGN to amend the Constitution has gained tremendous support in Metro Manila with 42 percent of respondents from the region now in favor of changing the Charter, according to the latest Social Weather Stations survey.

The survey, conducted from June 26 to July 2 with 300 Metro Manila respondents of voting age, was commissioned by the House committee on constitutional amendments to validate the results of a survey on the same issue taken by the SWS between May 28 and June 3.

The results of the latest poll were revealed in a press conference yesterday by Rep. Eduardo Nachura, committee chair. The survey had a margin of error of plus or minus 5.7 percent.

According to the survey, 91 percent of the respondents had extensive, sufficient and/or same knowledge about the Constitution.

Nachura noted the "meteoric rise" to 42 percent in the number of those who now want Charter change compared to 30 percent in the May-June survey and 28 percent in December 2002.

The SWS described the latest figures as a "fast rise."

At least 48 percent of respondents wanted a shift from a bicameral to a unicameral legislature, while 42 percent were in favor of the status quo. This question was not asked in the previous surveys.

Regional governments

The survey also showed 45 percent rejecting a federal system of government, but 43 percent approving the creation of regional governments. At least 34 percent agreed to a shift to a parliamentary system—six percentage points up from the previous survey.

Of those in favor of changing the type of legislature from bicameral to unicameral, 32 percent favored a constituent assembly and 41 percent, a constitutional convention to initiate amendments.

Of those in favor of shifting from a presidential to a parliamentary form of government, 41 percent favored a convention and 27 percent, a constituent assembly. There was a significant level at 32 percent of those who declared either mode of amendment acceptable.

In explaining the survey findings on the mode of amending the Charter, the SWS told the Nachura panel that the respondents were closely "divided" between those who favored a convention, which led by a tiny plurality, and a constituent assembly, when the two modes of changing the 1987 Constitution were presented to them.

Nationwide scale

Nachura said respondents from Metro Manila were picked because the National Capital Region is "always taken as a sample of national interest." He said the committee will also commission a survey on the same issues on a nationwide scale.

Marietta Primicias-Goco, convenor of the Coalition for Charter Change, told the press conference that her group is convinced amendments to the Constitution must take place as soon as possible.

Goco said the survey results would serve as the baseline for her group to measure the effectivity of its advocacy.

"We are absolutely encouraged by the latest results and we are absolutely certain more Filipinos will agree with us if we are able to reach them and explain the superiority of the constituent assembly over the convention," she said.

Goco said the movement was against a total overhaul of the Constitution but will push for some changes.

These, she said, were the move from a presidential to a parliamentary form of government to be in place by 2007.

MIAA sets aside P3B to start up Naia Terminal 3

By Jerome Aning

THE MANILA International Airport Authority has earmarked about P3 billion to fund the initial operations of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3 once the government takes over the facility.

MIAA general manager Edgardo Manda told reporters the money would come from the overdue rent and other fees owed by airline companies, tenants and other concessionaires at the airport.

The collectibles were discovered during a financial audit undertaken when he assumed office in 2001, Manda said.

He said the P3 billion would be sufficient to initially run Naia 3 without having to borrow funds.

At present, Naia 3 remains unopened, after its bidding and construction were allegedly tainted by graft and corruption and the Supreme Court last May nullified the contract between the government and the Philippine International Air Terminals Co. Inc. to construct the terminal.

To make the new building ready for passenger traffic, Manda said, would cost the MIAA about P9 million. The amount would include preparing the communications equipment, power connections, water drainage, security system and other vital facilities.

Piatco has appealed the Supreme Court decision nullifying its $657-million contract with the government. Piatco officials, however, said they remained hopeful it would still be allowed to take part in the terminal's operation.

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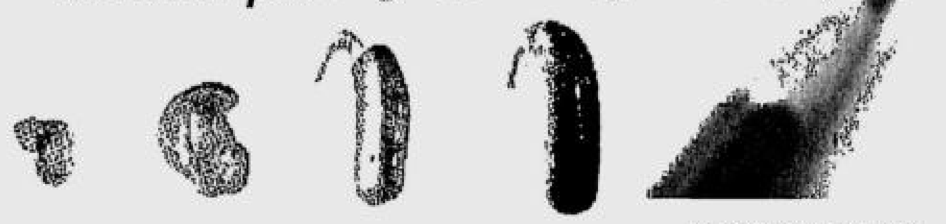

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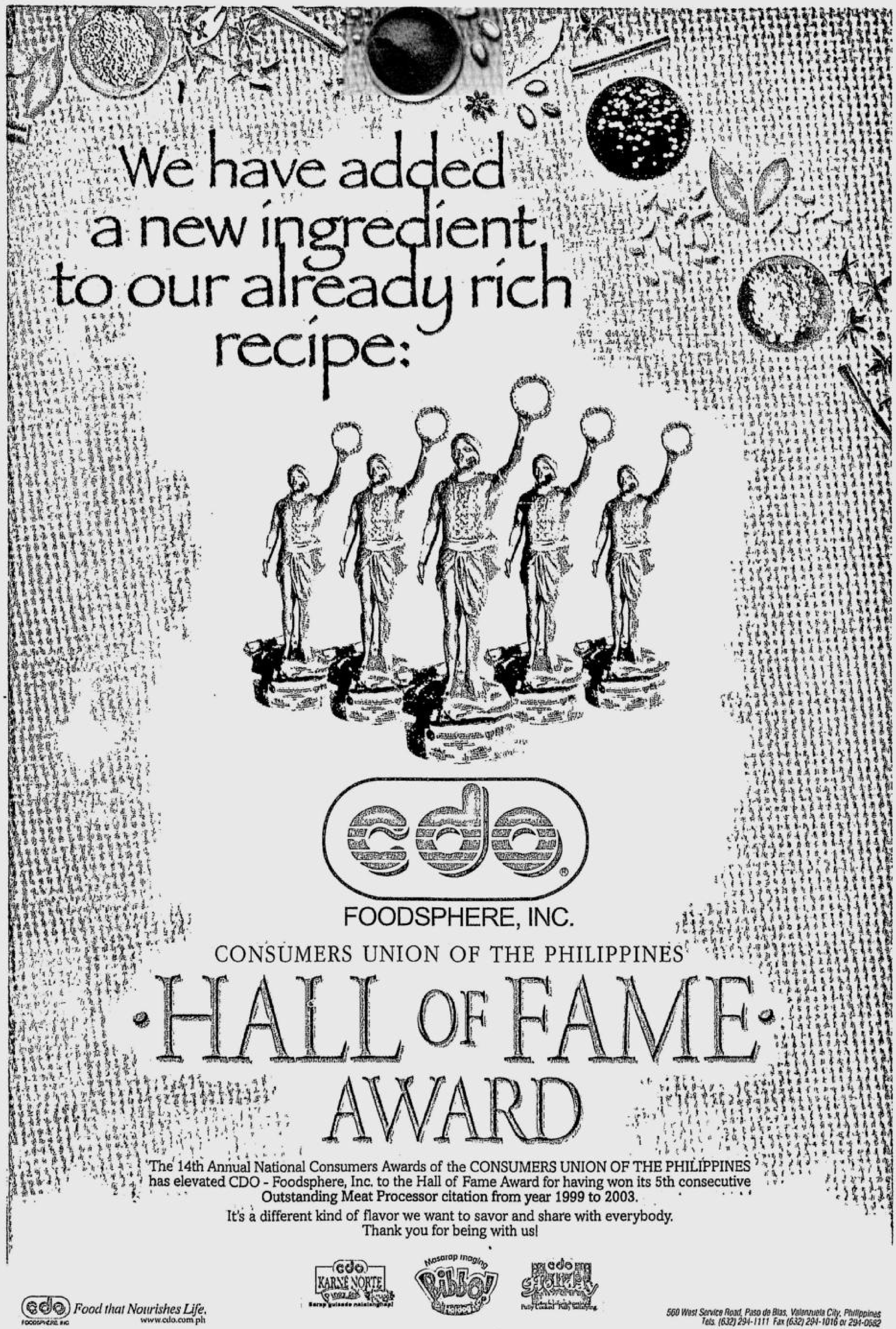
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Mike A busy winning friends for GMA

By Fe Zamora
INQ.7

THE PRESIDENT'S husband, Jose Miguel Arroyo, is busy these days trying to win back friends turned foes and making new ones, especially potential rivals to his wife's increasingly apparent presidential intentions, according to an INQUIRER source.

The source said Arroyo's meetings used the same "format": it starts with local issues, with Arroyo bringing up the case of "helping the government" and eventually "helping Gloria."

Last week, he met with Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco in Bacolod City, reported the INQUIRER source. Cojuangco's wife, Gretchen, is from Negros, which is also the home base of the Arroyo family.

The meeting's agenda was supposedly to discuss the status of the People Power Coalition (PPC) candidates in Negros Occidental. Conjuangco's Nationalist People's Coalition (NPC) is a member of the coalition which is dominated by the Lakas-Christian Muslim Democrats party of Ms Macapagal.

Last Tuesday, Arroyo and Cojuangco had another scheduled meeting, but ended up "burning the lines instead."

Roco meeting

Arroyo, according to another source, also met with Raul Roco on June 27. The "meeting" was arranged by Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo, the source said, and was timed on Arroyo's birthday.

The source said Arroyo also wanted to "reach out" to presidentiable Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr., and was looking for a "bridge" that could link him to Fernando Poe Jr.

ARROYO: Befriending foes

Arroyo denied he had met with Cojuangco, but confirmed his meeting with Pastor "Boy" Saycon, secretary general of the Council of Philippine Affairs (Copa).

"We met over nothing. Saycon is an old friend. You know it's like meeting an old friend that you haven't seen in a long time because of a misunderstanding. That's all," Arroyo told INQ.7

He also denied his wife's presidential plans were ever discussed during the meeting.

"I would have meet with him (Saycon) whether she runs or not, because we don't want enemies anymore. We are looking for friends," Arroyo said.

Saycon confirmed they met for lunch on two Mondays in June at the Mandarin Hotel in Makati. He said the meeting was initiated by Arroyo who was accompanied by a retired police general.

"Mike (the First Gentleman) asked for my help in carrying out programs in government. He lay down the cards, so to speak," Saycon told INQ7.net.

Saycon believed the meeting had the blessings of Ms Macapagal, for whom he worked as political officer and strategist when she was vice president and aspiring presidential candidate.

"I should be the last person to talk to (for help). I have no love for Mike Arroyo," Saycon added.

"I think Malacañang is on a campaign-mode and that explains the frenzy to mend fences and link up with various groups," he added.

'Termite'

In a fit of anger, Ms Macapagal called Saycon a "termite gnawing on the administration from within."

Saycon retaliated by quitting his post as director of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp. (PDIC).

Copa and Malacañang had a falling out over Ms Macapagal's choice of Blas Ople as foreign affairs secretary, citing his closeness with Ferdinand Marcos.

Ople replaced Vice President Teofisto Guingona who resigned the foreign affairs portfolio he held in concurrent capacity, in protest of Ms Macapagal's decision to hold a joint RP-US war exercise in Mindanao.

Arroyo has also been holding planning sessions in the Macapagal's Forbes Park home, according to former senator, Ernesto Maceda, who's NPC president emeritus.

Maceda also said that Arroyo himself had been spilling the beans about his wife's change of heart to his friends"especially the Wack-Wack circle." *With a report from Christine Avendaño.*

Ex-SolGen ...

From page A1

conut funds for private use. He said they should be made to refund the money to the government.

Chavez said the Sandiganbayan ruling was "irreversible" and the prospect for appeal "zero."

Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo and PCGG Commissioner Ruben Carranza were the toast of civil society and militant groups grouped under the K12:30 Movement as they celebrated yesterday the "victory of coconut farmers."

"It's a good day for justice," said Carranza who with Marcelo were the latest pair of government lawyers to have teamed up in the 16-year-old saga to win a ruling on the coconut levy ownership issue.

"We have a lot more to do," said the grinning Marcelo.

Carranza, who joined the PCGG a little over two years ago, said the ruling "vindicated" the hardline position the present PCGG dispensation took against any compromise with Cojuangco.

President Corazon Aquino said: "The Sandiganbayan has spoken. I am happy about the result and for what is just and good for the people."

Administration Sen. Joker Arroyo said the Sandiganbayan decision handed down its decision "a bit late" but "it was better late than never."

'Vindication'

"It also vindicates the moral and legal position of government on all ill-gotten wealth cases" and "would banish the settling of the notorious coco levy, UCPB and SMC cases," Arroyo said.

Bayan Muna Rep. Crispin Beltran said the Sandiganbayan ruling should disqualify Cojuangco from running for president.

Bayan Muna said the coconut industry deteriorated because of Cojuangco's manipulation of the levy funds.

Beltran said criticisms that the ruling was politically motivated should not discredit the substance of the Sandiganbayan resolution.

"What matters is that the decision came and it was a decision that favored thousands of coconut farmers whose coco levy funds had been illegally appropriated by Cojuangco," he said.

The militant farmers group Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas hailed the Sandiganbayan ruling as a "partial, initial victory" for small coconut farmers, and called for the criminal prosecution of Cojuangco.

KMP chair Rafael Mariano said the farmers were not planning a big celebration as Cojuangco could still appeal before the Supreme Court.

Besides, determining how the levy funds are to be "returned to [their] rightful owners" could entail another lengthy process, he said.

But Mariano said the anti-graft court decision should be enough to cripple the controversial businessman's presidential bid in 2004.

"He has lost all moral ascendancy to even run for President, unless he voluntarily returns the coco levy funds to the rightful owners," he told a press forum in Quezon City.*With reports from Dona Pazzibugan, Volt Contreras, Christine Gaylican, Metro Manila: Delfin T. Mallari, PDI Southern Luzon Desk; Desiree Caluza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau, and Ferdinand O. Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Maceda: Timing of court verdict suspicious

From page A1

Tropics Resort Club here where he was making so-called "consultations with the people" before making the decision to run.

The question was thrown at Cojuangco by a local businessman during the "consultative forum" attended by some 400 local officials and business leaders.

Cojuangco, who flew into the city by private plane late yesterday morning, said his trip here was part of his continuing effort to "get the pulse" of the people before making the decision to run.

He stressed that his decision would not depend on whether President Macapagal-Arroyo would reverse an earlier decision not to seek a full term in 2004.

"My decision is not dependent on GMA. I can decide anytime and my decision is according to my own decision," he said.

"I have a mission to turn around the country's economy and change the system of government ... I am here to get the pulse of the Boholanos," he said.

COJUANGCO

Opposition Sen. Edgardo Angara said the court setback would not discourage but would even prompt Cojuangco to gun for the presidency.

'Out of the blue'

He said it might cause Cojuangco to "launch his candidacy even more firmly because it appears that the administration is vindictive, or after him and that will make him the underdog."

"Why suddenly out of the blue, there is a decision and at the eve of a very important national elections, so you can question the timing and motivation," Angara said.

Ousted ex-President Joseph Estrada said there was something fishy in the timing of the decision, as it appeared to be related to Cojuangco's possibly running for president next year.

"This is purely political in nature," he said in a phone interview.

"They will do everything to stay in power," said Estrada, who earlier said Cojuangco would be among the opposition's top choices as official candidate.

"This is a grave injustice to Mr. Cojuangco," the ousted leader said.

"It was he who had thought about all these. If he did not manage the coconut funds well, there would not have been any money to fight over," Estrada said in Filipino.

'Instruments of politics'

Another former senator, Francisco Tatad, said "people cannot help but conclude" that the Sandiganbayan ruling was politically motivated given the judiciary's "general behavior" since the second Edsa people power uprising.

He noted that politically charged legal battles like the coco levy case against Cojuangco, and the earlier one on the legitimacy questions raised by Estrada at the Supreme Court against the Macapagal presidency were both resolved in favor of the administration.

"If you lump together what the court had done since 2001 to uphold the cases of the administration, some people cannot help but conclude that the courts under Mrs. Arroyo have become instruments of political power rather than instruments of law," said Tatad who ran for senator under the NPC in 1992.

To him, the Sandiganbayan ruling will not deflate Cojuangco's presidential ambitions but "will probably firm up his decision to run and win. For if he loses, he will be punished."

The Sandiganbayan decision against Cojuangco was a "purely legal matter and personal to him, and the NPC has nothing to do with it," said Rep. Francis Escudero, the NPC spokesperson.

Cojuangco would be done with his provincial consultations in August and was to make the announcement of whether to run or not first week of September, he said.

On Speaker Jose de Venecia's proposal for a summit between the President and Cojuangco to determine who should be the administration coalition's standard-bearer, Escudero said this was not a major concern.

De Venecia sought the summit between the two leaders of the biggest political parties in the People's Power Coalition to put an end to speculations that both Ms Macapagal and Cojuangco would run. *With reports from Juliet Lalbog-Javellana, Cynthia D. Balana, Christine Avendaño, Armand Nocum and Volt Contreras*

Gov't may take over SMC

From page A1

"there should be no dispute any more that the... SMC shares belong to the government," Carranza said.

The PCGG, the agency tasked with recovering ill-gotten wealth from Marcos and his associates, filed the suit to recov er the coco levy assets with the Sandiganbayan in 1987.

Friday's ruling was a partial summary judgment of the three cases involving UCPB (Case No. 33-A), CIIF (Case No. 33-B) and SMC (Case No. 33-F).

There are eight coco levy cases pending before the anti-graft court since 1987, the biggest of which involved the UCPB. (Case No. 33-A), SMC (Case No. 33-F) and CIIF (Case No. 33-B).

Carranza laughed off Cojuangco's claim that the ruling was "politically motivated," pointing out that the ruling was long overdue. *(Story of Page A1.)*

He said the last 16 years were spent hearing various motions filed by the defendants, including questions regarding the PCGG's sequestration of the UCPB.

Carranza said Cojuangco had opposed the government's petition for a partial summary judgment. "He did not think it in his interest that this be decided quickly," he said.

Long overdue

Malacañang also defended itself from criticisms regarding the timing of the ruling which many see as a big blow to Cojuangco both as a businessma\n and aspiring presidential candidate.

"You have to ask the Sandiganbayan. This is completely out of the hands of the Executive," said deputy spokesperson Ricardo Saludo.

"If anything, this is long overdue. We see this development as a positive one for the farmers and we hope this will lead to the resolution of the coco levy cases and the disposition of the funds for the development of the coconut industry," he said.

The Sandiganbayan on Friday ruled that Cojuangco, Juan Ponce Enrile and Cocofed officials led by Ms. Clara Lobregat illegally acquired the UCPB with coco levy funds and thus forfeited all these shares in favor of the government.

The government, through the PCGG, has also asked the court to make a summary judgment on the ownership of the sequestered SMC shares and the various CIIF oil mills.

About 94 percent of UCPB is sequestered. Of this, 72.2 percent were bought with coco levy funds while the rest were held by individuals associated with Cojuangco and the late dictator Marcos.

Marcos decreed the then Cojuangco-controlled UCPB as the administrator of the coco levy funds that were invested in six oil mills. The oil mills, in turn, own 14 holding companies that own the 27-percent stake in SMC.

SMC shares also public

With the ruling on UCPB, Carranza said Cojuangco and the other defendants should "drop all pretensions" that they legitimately acquired the bank "as if they did not actually benefit from (former President Ferdinand) Marcos' dictatorial powers."

All these coco levy-acquired assets were placed under sequestration in 1986 but control of UCPB went back to Cojuangco when Joseph Estrada became President in 1998. Cojuangco also gained control of SMC and companies under the CIIF during the Estrada administration.

It was only last year that the Macapagal administration was able to place government nominees in all the 15 UCPB board seats after the Supreme Court on Dec. 14, 2001 ruled that the UCPB was bought with coco levy funds which are "public in character."

But Cojuangco was also able to put in two nominees, Carlo Estabillo and Carolina Diangco.

Accommodation

Carranza said the two Cojuangco nominees who were "accommodated" while the case was still pending should now resign "without being asked to."

Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho refused to speculate on the implications of the Sandiganbayan• decision, saying simply that "if it becomes final and executory [it] would help facilitate the rehab of UCPB."

Well-placed sources said, however, that the Sandiganbayan decision, when it becomes final and executory, would allow the government to sell the 27-percent sequestered stake in the SMC.

The 27-percent stake is now only about 25 percent after it was diluted with the investment of Japanese brewer Kirin in SMC and is roughly worth $1 billion.

Camacho said the government has committed to selling the 27-percent sequestered stake when the issue of the coco levy funds ownership is finally decided.

The proceeds of the sale will be used to develop the coconut industry and improve the lives of coconut farmers from whom the levy was collected from 1973 to 1982. The coconut levy funds are estimated to be worth between P100 to P150 billion now.

In a radio message yesterday, President Macapagal-Arroyo vowed that the coconut levy funds would go back to impoverished coconut farmers from whom they were taken.

Farmers' benefit

"The coco levy funds must benefit the coconut farmers. We will continue to take all feasible measures to ensure that this principle is fully implemented," the President said in a radio message.

As if to drive home the point, she announced that she would be distributing coco levy checks during a planned caravan to the Visayas where she will visit the so-called "Danding country" of Bacolod City.

The President had ordered in December 2001 that some P700 million in CIIF dividends be used to provide a price support fund for coconut farmers starting in January 2002. The dividends were earned from the 27 percent SMC shares.

But many complications surround the complex coconut levy issue.

One is that more than half of the shares corresponding to the 72.2-percent stake in UCPB have already been distributed to so-called farmers allied with Cojuangco.

Ten percent of the 72.2 percent is being claimed by Cojuangco as his "compensation" for giving up the right to buy the entire block.

Cojuangco, according to one source, has claimed repeatedly that he was not interested in the 27-percent SMC stake. Despite this, however, he has been fighting for control of UCPB since it is the administrator of the coco levy funds. Whoever controls UCPB effectively controls the 27 percent SMC shares.

"UCPB as a bank also owns 15 percent of three of the oil mills. Effectively, UCPB owns 2.98 percent of the 27-percent stake in San Miguel," said an official of the bank.

Cocobank rehab

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Rafael Buenaventura said that as far as the bank regulator was concerned, the rehabilitation of the UCPB was the most important agenda "regardless of who the eventual owner is."

The newly appointed UCPB president Jose Querubin yesterday welcomed the Sandiganbayan ruling, saying it would put the bank one step closer to raising more capital through the entry of a strategic investor.

"Resolving the issue of ownership can mean that capital can now be infused. It means the government will have to turn this bank around and privatize it," Querubin said.

Despite a P20-billion financial assistance package from state-owned Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp., UCPB still needs more capital to meet regulatory requirements set by the central bank.

Under the financial assistance package signed on Monday, PDIC would purchase P13 billion in non-performing assets of UCPB and extend a P7-billion loan, of which an intial P2 billion would qualify as "tier-two" capital.

As a result of the sale of non-performing assets to the PDIC, UCPB would also get back P7 billion in additional capital.

Banking industry impact

Bankers Association of the Philippines executive director Leonilo Coronel said that the ruling would not have an impact on the banking industry as a whole and even its impact on the UCPB itself was still questionable.

Coronel said it was "not comforting [that] government is again running a bank that used to be run very well by the private sector."

He said the question that remained, was whether the government would have the "wherewithal" to continue providing support to UCPB.

Industry observers also wondered whether the SMC group of companies, headed by Cojuangco, would continue to support the UCPB by keeping group deposits in the bank now that the government would assume control of UCPB.

Coronel said no foreign investor would likely want to touch UCPB unless the issue of the CIIF was divorced from the bank and was therefore clean from any government hold.

"That (CIIF ownership issue) has to be resolved before you can expect a foreign investor to be interested," Coronel said.

Another informed source said legislation would be required before the UCPB's control over the CIIF as administrator can be removed or transferred as its trusteeship had been ordered by presidential decree. *With reports from Juliet Labog-Javellana and Volt Contreras*

RONALD Lumbao is welcomed to freedom by his wife Liza and supporters from the PMAP. PDI PHOTO

Mexican envoy weighs in with opinion on SC ruling

By Philip C. Tubeza

REBUFFED by the courts, lawyer Alan Paguia has gotten another "dissenting opinion," this time from a member of the diplomatic community, to his claim that former President Joseph Estrada was still the country's legal President.

Mexican Ambassador Enrique Hubbard told Paguia in a personal letter that there was "no legal way to deny" the Supreme Court's decision that legitimized the Macapagal-Arroyo administration after the Edsa II revolt.

However, as a *compañero*, the ambassador gave Paguia a hint of encouragement: "We lawyers . . . must always seek justice, even when the letter of the law seems to be against it."

The ambassador wrote the letter after reading Paguia's book, "Rule of Law or Rule of Force," which questions the current government's legality. The author had sent the envoy the copy.

While he said the book was "fascinating," and that he could "not put it down till the end," Hubbard shot down Paguia's claims.

"I may or may not agree with the legal findings, but I think the Court was acting within Constitutional boundaries," the envoy said. "There is no higher Court in the land and its (decisions) are final; this is fundamental to the rule of law."

GMA's letter

Hubbard also said the SC justices had been right to heed then Vice President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's letter at the height of Edsa II, asking that she be sworn in as President.

"The letter from GMA to the chief justice (informed) him of a situation, without requesting a legal opinion, without asking for the court's intervention . . . as a tribunal," Hubbard said.

He said Ms Macapagal's letter had addressed "an attribution of the Chief Justice, one that is not materially judicial, merely administrative: Taking the Oath."

Hubbard explained: "The only possible response was to recognize or not the possession of a legal attribution, without further elaboration. The justices did just that. It was resolved unanimously by the Court that indeed there (was) such authority to administer the oath of office."

The court had been "under no legal obligation" to examine the legality of the succession process, Hubbard said, since no one at the time had petitioned it to rule on the issue.

It was Congress that should have decided whether or not Estrada could no longer go on as President, he added: "To my mind, it is not the duty of the Court to examine the validity of a letter of resignation, nor to pronounce a presidential inability to discharge duties; it is the Legislative Branch's attribution to do so."

The issue became a judicial matter, Hubbard said, only "when the whole process was challenged legally (and) the substance of the decisions came into question."

Further, the diplomat said, the support of Archbishop Antonio Franco, the papal nuncio, for Ms Macapagal at the time of the revolt should not be taken as the stand of the whole diplomatic community.

Franco was at the Edsa Shrine, on stage beside Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin, when the President took her oath on Jan. 21, 2001.

Lumbao out on bail, warns of another 'explosion'

By Margaux Ortiz

RONALD Lumbao, who led supporters of former President Joseph Estrada in staging the bloody Edsa III rebellion, slipped quietly out of jail yesterday afternoon, predicting another "explosion" similar or even greater in scope than the riots of two years ago.

Supt. Rogelio Pagunuran, warden of the Manila City Jail where Lumbao spent part of his one-year-and-three-months' detention on charges of rebellion, said the release of the head of the People's Movement Against Poverty "was relatively quiet, without the expected group of PMAP members and Erap supporters."

Only Lumbao's wife, Lisa, and his lawyer, JV Bautista, were there to welcome him to the outside world.

Judge Reynaldo Alhambra of Manila Regional Trial Court Branch 53 on Friday afternoon granted Lumbao's petition to post bail of P300,000.

The judge said in his resolution that the evidence presented by the prosecution to establish Lumbao's offense was "inconclusive."

Lumbao was arrested after a prolonged manhunt on April 25, 2002 in Novaliches, Quezon City, for allegedly instigating the so-called rebellion.

He was accused of provoking thousands of Estrada supporters on May 1, 2001 to march toward Malacañang Palace and attack it, causing deaths, injuries, violence and destruction of properties in the process.

Bautista said that Lumbao planned to visit his relatives in Tatalon, Quezon City immediately after getting out of the jail.

But a few hours before his release, Lumbao had told the INQUIRER, "The first thing I will do after reuniting with my family and friends would be to visit the President."

He was quick to quash the surprised reaction from his words. "Of course, I'm referring to President Estrada. I never considered Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo as the president," he said.

Erap forces' attempt to link up with leftist group bared

BAGUIO CITY—Supporters of ousted President Joseph Estrada had offered to link up with the leftist Bayan Muna, an official of the organization said here yesterday.

Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo said the offer was made after "documented evidence" revealed the military was planning to stop the party-list group of the Estrada supporters from winning a seat in Congress in 2004.

Ocampo also assailed as black propaganda efforts to tag Bayan Muna as a communist front.

He disclosed that Tala, the newsletter of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, had described Bayan Muna as the communist front organization that Malacañang had tagged as having "infiltrated the government."

The military is relying on a "special report on the Re-affirmists' Political Party," according to Lt. Col. John Bonafos, who wrote the Tala article which dealt with the "implications of Bayan Muna in AFP internal security operations."

Re-affirmists apparently refer to communist rebels who elected to stay within the communist-led National Democratic Front framework, after a communist purge in the 1980s forced the Revolutionary Proletariat Army and the Alex Boncayao Brigade (RPA-ABB) to break away from the NDF.

"In areas where the NDF organizations cannot be fully established, Bayan Muna . . . successfully established party organizations, which later can be transformed into a communist terrorist movement," Bonafos said in the article.

Ocampo said former Agrarian Reform Secretary Horacio Morales, now chair of Estrada's Partido ng Masang Pilipino (PMP), had initiated talks with Bayan Muna, banking on his old ties with the militant activist group. *Desiree Caluza and Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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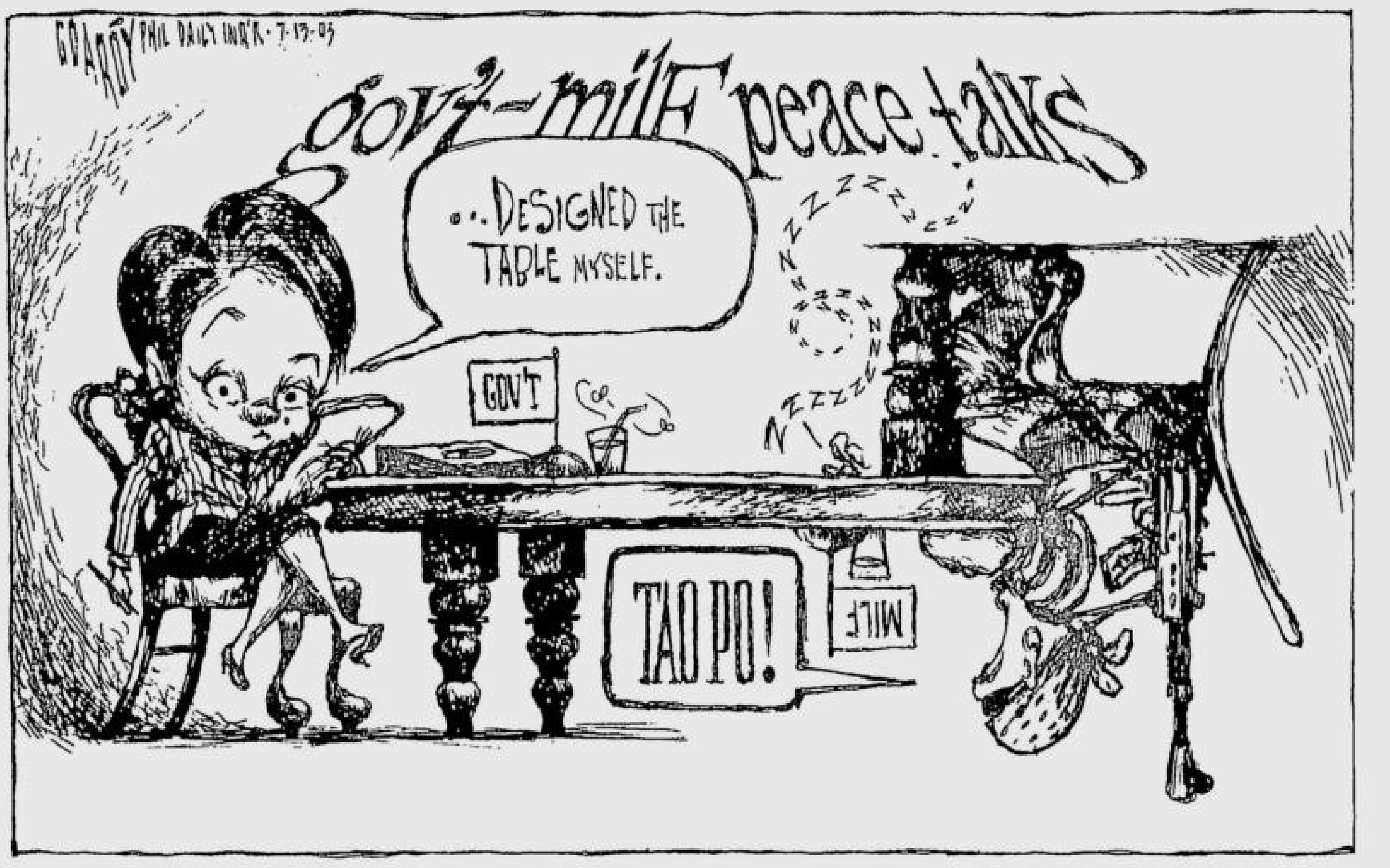
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EDITORIALS

Tree of life

THE DECISION of the Sandiganbayan to forfeit businessman Eduardo Cojuangco's shareholdings in the United Coconut Planters Bank in favor of the government and the country's coconut farmers is as welcome as rain in dry season.

"The abovementioned shares of stock of the [UCPB] transferred to defendant Cojuangco are hereby declared conclusively owned by the plaintiff Republic of the Philippines," the anti-graft court said, in an 84-page ruling written by Associate Justice Teresita Leonardo-de Castro, chair of the First Division.

The decision comes 17 months after the Supreme Court ruled that litigation over the controversial coconut levy funds "must come to a definite end now," 19 months after the high court declared that the funds were "public in character," 16 years after the Presidential Commission on Good Government sued Cojuangco et al.—and 28 years since Cojuangco and his group acquired the shares in 1975.

An elated Haydee Yorac, current chair of the PCGG, called the ruling "a vindication for the coconut farmers who have waited 30 years."

The UCPB case is one of several coconut levy cases that the PCGG filed after Ferdinand Marcos fled in 1986. The levy was imposed on coconut farmers as a forced tax between 1973, a year after martial law was declared, and 1982, a year after martial rule was ostensibly lifted. Through Marcos' Presidential Decree 755, the Philippine Coconut Federation and Cojuangco, the fund administrator, used the Coconut Consumer Stabilization Fund to acquire 72.2 percent of what was then known as the First United Bank.

The central argument of the Sandiganbayan's landmark decision struck at the heart of Marcos rule: government by presidential decree. It declared PD 755 unconstitutional, for "having allowed the CCSF to benefit directly private interests by the outright and unconditional grant of absolute ownership of the FUB/UCPB shares." For decades, associations of small-scale coconut farmers have accused Cojuangco et al. of exercising ownership rights that actually belong to them.

The anti-graft court also established that the UCPB shares were "paid for by the (Philippine Coconut Authority) with public funds later charged to the coco levy funds."

The ruling is about as categorical as judicial pronouncements can get. Like the coconut tree itself, whose many uses have sustained millions of coconut farmers throughout the years, the decision is vital. It nourishes those whose lives depend on making an honest living out of the tree of life.

Fact of life

IN OUR litigious culture, an appeal is certain. Chair Haydee Yorac of the Presidential Commission on Good Government, for one, anticipates a return to the Supreme Court.

What looks less certain is businessman Eduardo Cojuangco's hold on San Miguel Corp. One of the country's largest companies, SMC has been sequestered by the PCGG since 1986. United Coconut Planters Bank, itself similarly sequestered, controls at least 27 percent of the stock. The government has five PCGG nominees on the 15-man board of directors, plus two other seats. Under a modus vivendi in place since 1986, the PCGG has allowed SMC management to run the business. Between 1986 and 1998, it was Andres Soriano III. Since 1998, after Joseph Estrada became president, Cojuangco has served as chief executive. (He was also CEO from 1983 to 1986.)

The Sandiganbayan decision invalidating Cojuangco's ownership of UCPB shares will impact on the SMC ownership dispute—and in turn on the May 2004 elections. One of the country's billion-dollar conglomerates competing in international markets, San Miguel and its affiliated companies like Coca-Cola Bottlers also operate an intensive national network. It has a presence in almost every barangay, and its transportation fleet is the country's second-biggest, after the government's own. It is both a campaign machine, and the spoils of election.

We can thus expect the landmark decision to concentrate Cojuangco's mind like a hanging. Either he will redouble efforts to preserve the SMC status quo, or he will seek resolution by finally deciding to run for president. Either way, he will be cutting political deals. That's a fact of life.

Senators as salesmen

Separate Opinion

Isagani A. Cruz

SOMETIME ago I saw an appalling sight in one of our malls. It was of an elderly woman not at all attractive who was displaying an attire fit for a young girl but not for her. Her costume—what else could it be?—exposed her pot belly and her navel above her low-waist miniskirt. It was enough to make the fastidious retch.

She was accompanied by a man who had to be her husband. The poor fellow did not mind exhibiting his ridiculous wife, or maybe he was actually proud of her. The couple seemed to be preening. They were probably so lost in self-admiration that they did not notice the unbelieving stares of the shocked public.

It was evident that the woman had lost her sense of values. She obviously thought she was still a teenager and so could dress like one. She could have sported that same clothing 40 years ago although there was no guaranty it would have becomed her. It was enough that she was young enough then to dress like those of her generation although she would not have been less ugly.

There are some values that must change with age. Gray hair may be dyed, but clothing must grow old with the years that cannot be held back. The aged woman who dresses like a young lady only calls attention to herself but not in admiration but in secret derision. Dressing like a youngster only makes her look silly.

It is not only the old women who want to dress young that have lost their sense of values. I also have in mind the many public officials who have not understood that their present high positions demand from them a higher standard of decorum.

A familiar example is the reserved and inhibited conduct expected of the judge. He may have been an extroverted and even rowdy practitioner before but he must be more conservative now that he is sitting on the court. I remember my good friend Celing Fernan, who loved to sing "Feelings" publicly often with accompanying body rhythm. When he became chief justice, however, he abandoned this frivolity and became the serious judge. Judges render decisions and do not sing arias.

Chief Justice Fernan's example seems to be lost on his colleagues in the Senate, where he also presided. Unlike him, some of them do not pay due respect to their present positions in contrast with their past occupations. While the Constitution does not allow them to hold any other office in the government without forfeiting their seat in the Senate, they are not prohibited from holding private employment while remaining as senators.

Sen. Noli de Castro, who is seldom heard in the debates in his chamber, still holds forth with his television program, "Magandang Gabi, Bayan." This is the reason he topped the last senatorial elections, which only showed his fluency in reading the idiot board with his baritone voice. There is no question he can do this job better than his work in the Senate, but he is allowed to do both and get paid with public and private funds.

Majority Leader Loren Legarda had impressive academic qualifications to be elected to the Senate but it was principally because of her stint as a television newscaster that the *bakya* crowd voted for her. She has not gone back to her old job as a broadcast journalist, but she is now gracing several television commercials and outsize print ads selling medicine. She is like her colleague, Sen. Juan Flavier, who is at least a doctor. I expect these distinguished legislators (who are both mentioned as possible presidential or vice-presidential candidates) are receiving considerable talent fees from their private employers in addition to their salaries and allowances from the Republic of the Philippines.

Sen. Panfilo Lacson is another public official turned private advertiser. If you want to see this poker-faced senator smile, you can watch him in that television commercial where he is proclaiming the merits of a brandy (although he is supposed to be a teetotaler). Lacson has already announced his presidential bid in 2004, the first time a candidate for the highest office in the land is sponsoring liquor (as part of his platform?) for the benefit of his possible intoxicated supporters.

It could be that these and other officials who have lost their sense of values as supposedly staid members of what was before appropriately called the Upper House are motivated by a more practical objective. Besides earning additional substantial income, their services outside the Senate will serve their more urgent purpose of preparing for the next election. Noticeably, those who have become extra-conspicuous of late are those aspiring for election or re-election in 2004. This makes their activities not only improper but possibly also criminal as premature campaigning under our election laws.

Those officials who have engaged in private employment while sitting in the Senate have cheapened themselves and their chamber by not paying proper respect to their official positions. As senators, they should devote their full time and attention to the welfare of the people. Their conduct is another indication of the impaired quality of the Senate that used to be the breeding ground of statesmen, not salesmen.

Reason, vision and mission

Moments

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

THE STORY is told about a man who boasted that he had 16 wives. When asked why he felt justified for having done so, his answer was that he married, 4 better, 4 worse, 4 richer, 4 poorer! To complete his rationalization, he further boasted that he could divorce eight of these wives. His reason? "Till d 8th do us part."

* * *

In contrast to the accumulative and selfish spirit of the world, Jesus instructs His disciples to travel light in today's Gospel (Mk. 6, 7-13). In line with His vision of establishing the kingdom of God here on earth, Jesus admonishes His disciples to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick, no food, no sack, no money in their belts. They were to wear sandals, but no second tunic. Furthermore, they were to preach repentance and do healing wherever they went.

These were Jesus' marching orders. Too ridiculous? Impractical? But, have we really ever tried?

The vision remains. The mission continues. The message remains the same: Repent. The Kingdom of God is at hand.

* * *

In the words of Fr. Lino Nicasio, SVD, we are "sales reps," with a great product and a Great Boss. We are to travel light and simply. We are to persevere in spite of the inhospitable people, and continue to preach repentance and do Christ-like service to others.

As disciples, are we traveling light and free? Are we preaching His message or our own message? Are we persevering in our own work in spite of opposition and persecution? Are we really doing Christ-like service, or self-service? These are questions we have to raise again and again so that we will be true to Jesus' vision and mission.

* * *

Just now, 10:30 p.m. of July 10, I received a phone call to anoint a dying person. My initial reaction was to let it pass, or to do it tomorrow. But then, am I not a disciple of the Lord? Was I not ordained [illegible]riest to do simply just this? It is in moments such as this when I have to surrender my human inclinations and human limitations to Jesus' instructions.

Sa totoo lang, it is not easy to have Jesus as CEO. But then, He is not just a Boss. He is a Master who loves, who understands, who supports and who is worth all our gratitude and love.

Come to think of it, everything is possible if there is love. There is nothing heavy if the heart is light. Nothing is cold if the heart is warm. Yes, Jesus is the reason for the mission.

* * *

To be true to Jesus' vision and mission, we must learn to follow instructions. When we stop listening to the Coach, when we insist on our play and forget His game plan, then we are bound to fail and go astray. The first thing to do is to obey. We must not put our personal agenda over and above His agenda. We must not allow personal ambition to precede the mission.

* * *

The second thing to do is *travel light*. Many a disciple has lost the way because he set his sight on the provisions along the way. Worse, many a disciple has stopped the journey precisely because it was more comfortable to stop and stay. No matter what, we must not stop. We must travel on.

* * *

The third thing to do is to be free. When we get tied down, when we get too attached to material things or persons, then we are no longer free. Even our movements are limited. But more than external freedom, we must guard against being trapped within, by prisons we ourselves have made. As far as possible, no matter what, we must stay loose and stay free so we can get going on our way.

* * *

Somebody shared with me this story about children who were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large tray of apples with the note, written by a nun: "Take only one. God is watching." At the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate cookies. A child had written a note: "Take all you want. God is watching the apples."

Cute. We may laugh at this but, when you think about it, we are supposed to go beyond our childish ways of legalism and compromise. Commitment is not so much about rules and obligations. It is more of a grateful response, about going the extra mile and putting out just one more smile. We must rediscover the reason for the mission. Then, Jesus' radical marching orders wouldn't sound too ridiculous and impractical. As long as we know the reason, we can and will do the mission. As someone once put it beautifully: "As long as I know the why, the how wouldn't matter."

* * *

As we move on, through valleys and mountains high, let us be assured of His constant love and protection. This is our greatest comfort and assurance: He is with us. He is the reason. His vision is our vision. His mission is our mission.

* * *

Whoever you are, wherever you are right now, remember that in everything, there's a reason, there's a mission. Get going. Move on. It is the Lord who beckons.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, in everything, help me to find the reason and the mission in your vision. Amen.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

His name is Abu, but he's on our side

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

WHEN Efren L. Abu graduated from the Philippine Military Academy in 1972, little did he realize that one day his name would be linked with that of one of the most brutal kidnap-for-ransom gangs in our nation's history, the Abu Sayyaf. Their merciless killings of captives and the huge ransom demands they had imposed for the release of hostages made them notorious worldwide, particularly with the recent release of Gracia Burnham's book, "In the Presence of My Enemies." *(By the way, whatever happened to the highly publicized investigation into charges of collusion between the military and Abu Sayyaf elements as reported in the book? The order to investigate was made by no less than President Macapagal-Arroyo more than two months ago. We haven't heard anything since then. Perhaps there was really nothing to investigate but nevertheless the Department of Justice which was tasked to look into the charges should come out with a report so that our people will not suspect a whitewash or a cover-up to protect the military establishment.)*

One would think that with a family name like Abu, the last place its bearer would likely be associated, is the Philippine Army. But that is exactly where Efren Abu is, a two-star general commanding the Army's Second Infantry Division based at Camp Mateo Capinpin in Tanay, Rizal. And he is one of the bright, shining stars of the Army, looming large on its horizon, possibly the man to beat in the race to succeed retiring Lt. Gen. Gregorio Camiling as Army chief.

Maj. General Efren Abu is a native of Batangas who grew up in a place called Mataas na Kahoy located on the outskirts of Fernando Airbase in Lipa City, a spot close to my heart where I took up flying training as a young 2nd Lieutenant fresh from a stint with an Army battalion combat team (BCT) in Quezon Province.

When I asked him how the family name came about, he replied that his roots were actually in Bauan, a town along the Batangas coastline which in the past, was frequently visited by Moro traders offering merchandise from the south. It is possible his ancestors were from the Sulu archipelago and had settled down in Batangas; hence, the Moro-sounding name.

As a matter of fact, there are certain similarities between Moros and Batangueños. For one thing, they share a love for bladed weapons such as the balisong, and the macho culture is evident among the people; a respect for strength and disdain for weakness. Humility is not one of their greater virtues. Also, if one goes by names, some Batangueño families are Dimaculangan, Dimaguiba or Dimayuga. The prefix, dima is also found in Moro names like Dimaporo and Dimasangkay, while Abu is part of Moro names like Abubakar or Abu Nidal. So there is reason to believe in a strong linkage between our Moro brothers from the south and parts of the Batangas populace.

Much of Abu's career was spent in Mindanao battling insurgents both Christian and Moro. Perhaps, because of his name, he became a figure of trust and friendship among the Moros. But also, a lot had to do with his own personal skills in handling an insurgency rooted in poverty and a people's desire for greater autonomy.

Going up the military ladder, he developed a reputation for dedicated service plus personal integrity. The Army, although the largest component of the Armed Forces, is really one small community. Everyone knows what everyone is doing, how they do it, what kind of lifestyle they maintain and after going through some kind of informal filtration mechanism, a few stand out as candidates for higher command.

A stint as Armed Forces Attaché at the Philippine Embassy in London provided Abu with an international experience that has broadened his outlook on global issues and after serving as AFP Deputy Chief of Staff for operations (J-3), he became the division commander of the 2nd Infantry Division, known as the "Jungle Fighter" division because for one thing, it has been the site for the training and development of seasoned fighting men who eventually end up in other Army units.

* * *

The division traces its origins to the 2nd battalion combat team (BCT) which was based at Camp Vicente Lim in Canlubang, Laguna in the '60s. The battalion was upgraded to a brigade in 1970 and later to a full infantry division on March 16, 1976. Its area of responsibility is the Calabarzon (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon Province) plus the islands of Mindoro, Romblon and Marinduque. The division's first commander was Brig. Gen. Domingo Tucay and some of his distinguished successors include, among others, Brig. Generals Ramon Cannu, Roland Pattugalan (who is credited with major efforts to upgrade camp facilities), Restituto Padilla (who later became CG, Philippine Army), Thelmo Cunanan (who moved on to become Southcom chief), Cesar Fortuno (former head of Nica) and Regino Lacson.

The camp is named after Brig. Gen. Mateo Capinpin, a native of Rizal Province, who was one of three Filipino generals commanding division-size units in the Bataan campaign during World War II. The others were Vicente Lim and Fidel Segundo. Because of its almost 2,000 feet elevation, cool climate, clean air and excellent road net, the area around the camp has been a magnet for land speculators, real estate developers, resort owners and a number of retirees looking for respite from the pollution and traffic problems of Metro Manila. Some big names in business are said to have bought large chunks of property in the surrounding territory and it is probably only a matter of time before development efforts will create another center of activity rivaling Tagaytay and other similar places.

Working toward 50-50

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

BACOLOD—Women in politics are in full force in this city. I flew here Wednesday for a "Consultation-Workshop on Stepping Up Advocacy for the Gender-Responsive Governance Agenda in the May 2004 Elections," organized by Pilipina with the support of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, for women leaders in Region 6. Yesterday, we held a regional assembly for members of Abanse! Pinay to fire up the campaign for next year's polls, especially in the light of its late entry to the House of Representatives.

At the same time, women legislators from all over the country are meeting here for the national assembly of the League of Lady Local Legislators, better known as the "Four L's."

Women around the country are determined to add their voices and energies to the task of forging a governance agenda in their localities. The only problem is that they seem to be held back by many factors, personal as well as institutional. On the personal side, women in our consultation-workshop confessed to feeling apprehensive about their "qualifications" for leadership and political involvement.

One participant, who says she hails from a family steeped in politics, admitted that many times she had given serious thought to joining the fray herself, only to back out eventually. "The way campaigns are carried out seems particularly suited to men," she said, citing the late nights spent on the stump, drinking with ward leaders, negotiating with powerbrokers in smoke-filled rooms, etc.

A woman mayor, however, countered that she didn't feel compelled to indulge in such activities and, in fact, "exploited" her motherly image in approaching tough and burly local leaders. Indeed, if a woman should seek to run for office on men's terms, then she would inevitably lose, since there is no way she can compete with men in their own game. Perhaps what women new in the field of politics need to learn is how to change the parameters and find alternative ways of reaching out to voters and securing the loyalty of constituents.

* * *

THIS is a task that the women of Abanse! Pinay face anew as they prepare for another bruising party-list campaign. After the results of the 2001 elections showed that it failed to garner enough votes for a seat in Congress, the party's leaders and local volunteers concentrated their advocacy work on local programs and legislation to improve the status of women starting at the barangay level. The recent Supreme Court decision, however, opens the door once more to the possibility of introducing, or at least influencing, legislation that address women's concerns.

One measure, to be pursued in the remaining months of the 12th Congress but more realistically achieved in the next Congress, is the "50-50 Initiative," a global campaign for gender equality in the world's governments spearheaded by the UN. The campaign seeks to "get the balance right" in all levels of government in all countries starting in 2005.

At the moment the only countries where the number of women holding decision-making positions in government approaches "critical mass" (determined at 30 percent) are the Nordic countries and South Africa. Elsewhere, though, even illiterate village women are showing they are capable of leadership for development.

In India, a law calling for the reservation of 33 percent of all seats in local councils for women has resulted in over a million elected women leaders at the village level. Though many of these women were illiterate or finished only basic education, they proved to be "natural" leaders, and showed that lack of schooling was no barrier to securing funds for development projects. A recent study even showed that as a result of the greater involvement of women in local leadership, "corruption had gone down and transparency greatly increased because of women's participation."

Certainly, a source of inspiration as the women of Bacolod and Region 6, and around the country, gird for yet another challenge!

* * *

I TOOK time on this visit to meet up with old friends, among them Ric and EJ Ramos who (remarkable how time flies!) are already marking the first anniversary of their stay in Greater Bacolod. Readers would remember them as the couple who decided to uproot themselves and their children to locate here, even if they had no immediate family or social support system.

When I asked how they and the children are faring, they said they love it here, that their children already have to be forced to speak Filipino and English at home because they have been thoroughly "Ilonggo-cized," and that their overall health has improved.

There's only one wrinkle in this scenario and that's the dispute they're embroiled in with the officers of the Homeowners' Association of Town and Country Subdivision in Talisay. After Ric's account of the dispute came out in this space, the board members made the unprecedented move of expelling him from the association for "conduct detrimental to the association." As a consequence, their vehicle stickers are no longer honored (they have to leave their licenses with the guards), all club privileges have been revoked, their garbage is no longer picked up and "no services shall be rendered to him" by the association.

As a homeowner of Town and Country in Antipolo, I'm naturally alarmed at how much power the officers of the homeowners' association can muster against members who dare question their policies, with the apparent support and encouragement of the developer. I hope the Ramoses won't be forced to abandon a place they love only because some people don't know the meaning of democracy.

Politics of language

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

CAPE TOWN—For the last four days, I've been listening to a group of scholars from nine African nations talk about the language situation in their respective countries. One immediately realizes that this continent has been robbed not only of its past but also of its soul.

In country after country, the official language is invariably that of the former colonial master. The people have kept their mother tongues, but these languages, if they are not dying, have not grown. To be an educated African today means going through a painful process of cutting oneself off from the culture of one's ancestors in exchange for a chance at personal success.

Freshly emancipated from apartheid rule in 1994, South Africa, the continent's richest nation authorized 11 languages to serve as the official languages of the country. Yet, English and Afrikaans have remained the language of government. The post-apartheid government had a bias for English because it was after all the language of the African National Congress. Afrikaans was the language that the Dutch settlers brought with them into the country in the 17th century. In the 1960s, it was refined into a racialized language of the white minority. But, as history would have it, the oppressed colored people also quickly acquired it.

Among the so-called "colored" people—who were neither black nor white—were the Cape Malays. These were the descendants of the slaves that the Dutch took from the islands comprising present-day Indonesia. They didn't quite speak like their masters, but they spawned their own versions of the oppressor's language. The latest census reveals the startling fact that in South Africa today, there are more non-whites who speak Afrikaans than whites. To banish Afrikaans would have meant burying the language of these equally oppressed people.

English is very much the language of power, wealth and social mobility in the African continent today. Of the nine countries represented in the meeting, only Benin, the former French colony, has not adopted English as the principal medium of instruction and of government. Not only is English very much regarded as the language of modernity, it is also ironically made to work as a language of national unification in societies deeply fragmented by tribal and ethnic differences.

The most striking example of this linguistic chaos is Cameroon. This nation of 16 million people has 268 languages. Within a 20-kilometer radius live people who literally do not understand one another. The colonizers attempted to bring them under the dominion of one language. The Germans who first colonized the country, made German the official language. Then the French and the British took over and created French Cameroon and British Cameroon. When the country was reunified, it became politically expedient to adopt English and French as the official languages instead of choosing one from any of the native languages.

In Zimbabwe, the people speak any of 18 indigenous languages. The most dominant of these is Shona, which is spoken by 80 percent of the population. Yet, the official language is English. It is also the sole medium of instruction from Grade 4 to college. The mother tongue, used in the early grades, is taught as a subject in a curriculum dominated by English.

The teaching of the early grades in the mother tongue is a policy that was adopted in many of the former colonies after it was conclusively shown that children learned basic concepts faster when they were taught in the home language. But many African countries are rethinking this policy. Ghana decided to completely junk it after the government was told that students from private schools who were taught exclusively in English fared better in the higher grades. Wherever one goes in Africa, parents demand to know why they should continue sending their children to school if all the education they got was in the language of the illiterate.

The disparagement of local languages is very common in societies that have not recovered from the colonial syndrome. In Malawi, the crazy US-educated dictator who ruled the country for more than 30 years, Dr. Hastings Banda, never spoke in any of the languages of his country. He was obsessed with English, and loved to mesmerize his people by his command of what he clearly regarded as a superior language.

In Uganda, a nation of 24 million people encompassing 56 tribes, there are three major native languages, but, again, no single unifying language. English, spoken by about 30 percent of the people, is the official language. It is the medium of instruction from nursery till university. The native language Luganda is taught as a subject at all levels.

The African scholars who came to the meeting believed that this situation should not be allowed to continue. They would not suffer seeing African children belittle their own mother tongues. Such a generation would grow without any commitment to the nation. On graduation, they would be aspiring to leave their country as quickly as possible.

Tanzania was the object of envy of everybody. Because of the foresight of the late Julius Nyerere, Swahili has become a sophisticated language. He ordered the preparation of dictionaries and word lists, realizing its potential as a pan-African language. After Tanzania acquired its independence in 1961, Swahili replaced English as official and national language. Today, it is the Americans who are learning Swahili.

Tanzania remains poor, but its soul is intact. It is a stable country that has overcome its internal conflicts.

* * *

Comments to randolf@pacific.net.ph

Samar is torn over a non-issue

COMMENTARY

Nelia C. Halcon

IT is disheartening to read about how the management of Samar Island is being debated and not how the poor people can be uplifted from abject poverty, given the wealth of its forests, biodiversity resources, minerals and other natural capital. It is equally disappointing to know that the issue being raised is whether to exploit the resources or to protect the environment, when in reality one can be undertaken in synergy with the other or, better still, one cannot exist without the other.

The old debate between development and environmental protection has been settled more than a decade ago when the global community committed itself to sustainable development in Rio de Janeiro. Looking at the arguments cited by one of the mayors and bishops of the Samar provinces make us realize that the concept of sustainable development has not really been understood. If this continues, the country will be moving at a snail's pace and we will eternally fall into the trap of "appropriate consultations" every time an issue comes out.

Policymakers do not have to choose between development and environment in deciding what to do about the seemingly but not necessarily conflicting interests. In the end, it is a question of the benefits the people would get from proclaiming the country's third largest island as a protected area over the benefits that could be derived from utilizing some of the island's resources for the people's welfare and well being. The test for sustainable development is how the standards of living of people are met and enhanced and how the well being of the future generations are ensured.

Among the economic justifications being cited for proclaiming Samar as a natural park are: (1) dependence of the upland population on forest resources as a source of income; (2) indiscriminate utilization of resources which are threats to the Samar Island's natural resources, that include encroachment and shifting cultivation (*kaingin*), timber poaching, hunting of wildlife and others; and (3) the economic benefit of preserving and rehabilitating the natural resources is worth pursuing in the face of rising conflicts in economic priorities. Therefore, it is argued, the proclamation of more than 400,000 hectares of the island as natural park would free the area from settlement, occupancy or any form of exploitation, thus preserving the scenery, natural habitat, flora and fauna, wild animals and plants, that would provide enjoyment of these features in the area.

These seemingly shallow objectives could easily make people believe that there is a bias on the primacy of natural park over them. Ironically, the people are cited as beneficiaries of the areas proposed to be left untouched and since there is no clear cut explanation about the importance of protected areas and natural park, the poor people feel deprived and marginalized. Perhaps this is one reason why NPA recruits continue to grow in number in Samar. To leave the areas closed to any economic activity is to institutionalize insurgency.

While there may be no way of capturing the value of the land as natural park and no ready economic market exists where such services can be sold, perhaps the project proponents and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources can give the people an inventory of the diverse species in the area that may be utilized in the field of medicine and science in the very near future. If the aim is to preserve the scenery and natural habitat in order to provide enjoyment of such area, the poor people of Samar would not understand simply because they are preoccupied with finding their next meal or, to be blunt about it, finding the means to survive.

Mayor Melchor Nacario of Calbiga and the Catholic bishops of the three provinces are appealing to the President to proclaim the proposed area as a natural park because the President, who happens to be an economist, saw the necessity of looking into how the island's natural resources can be optimized for the benefit of the people. With the country's population increasing disproportionately higher than the country's productive capacity, the President may have thought that closing a big area to any form of economic activity without satisfactorily knowing what resources lie underneath the island is doing a disservice to the Filipino people. The bauxite reservation in the area needs to be segregated since the resource can be utilized to develop the island.

In reality, Samar has not been thoroughly explored and there is nothing wrong in knowing the area's natural capital or assets, even if these will not be utilized for now. Palawan has existing mining operations and the island's environment remains one of the best in the country. Development has been part and parcel of the area's environmental management.

There is no problem with proclaiming more than 400,000 hectares on Samar Island as a natural park, provided the likely environmental benefits far outweigh the opportunity lost in utilizing some of its resources responsibly. If this can clearly be shown, then by all means, free the area from any economic activity but do something for the people who will be affected by the policy. Only then can we boast of our environmental policies as truly "people centered."

Nelia C. Halcon is executive vice president of the Chamber of Mines of the Philippines.

THEY SAID

Exposed

"Drug lords, however high in the corridors of powers they may be, must be exposed or hunted down like common criminals that they are."

—President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo

Divine help

"If it can't be solved with government intervention, then we need divine intervention."

—Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes, speaking about the impasse in negotiations with the Moro International Liberation Front

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TALK of the TOWN

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Editor **Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.**

Can GMA change her mind?

AT FIRST, people close to President Macapagal-Arroyo didn't want to be identified when they disclosed that Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin and US President George W. Bush wanted Ms Macapagal to run in next year's presidential election.

"Madam President, women and politicians are entitled to change their minds," a source quoted Bush as telling Ms Macapagal at the close of her official state visit to the United States in May.

Bush was urging Ms Macapagal to reconsider her announcement on Dec. 30 that she would not seek a full-year six-year term in the 2004 election.

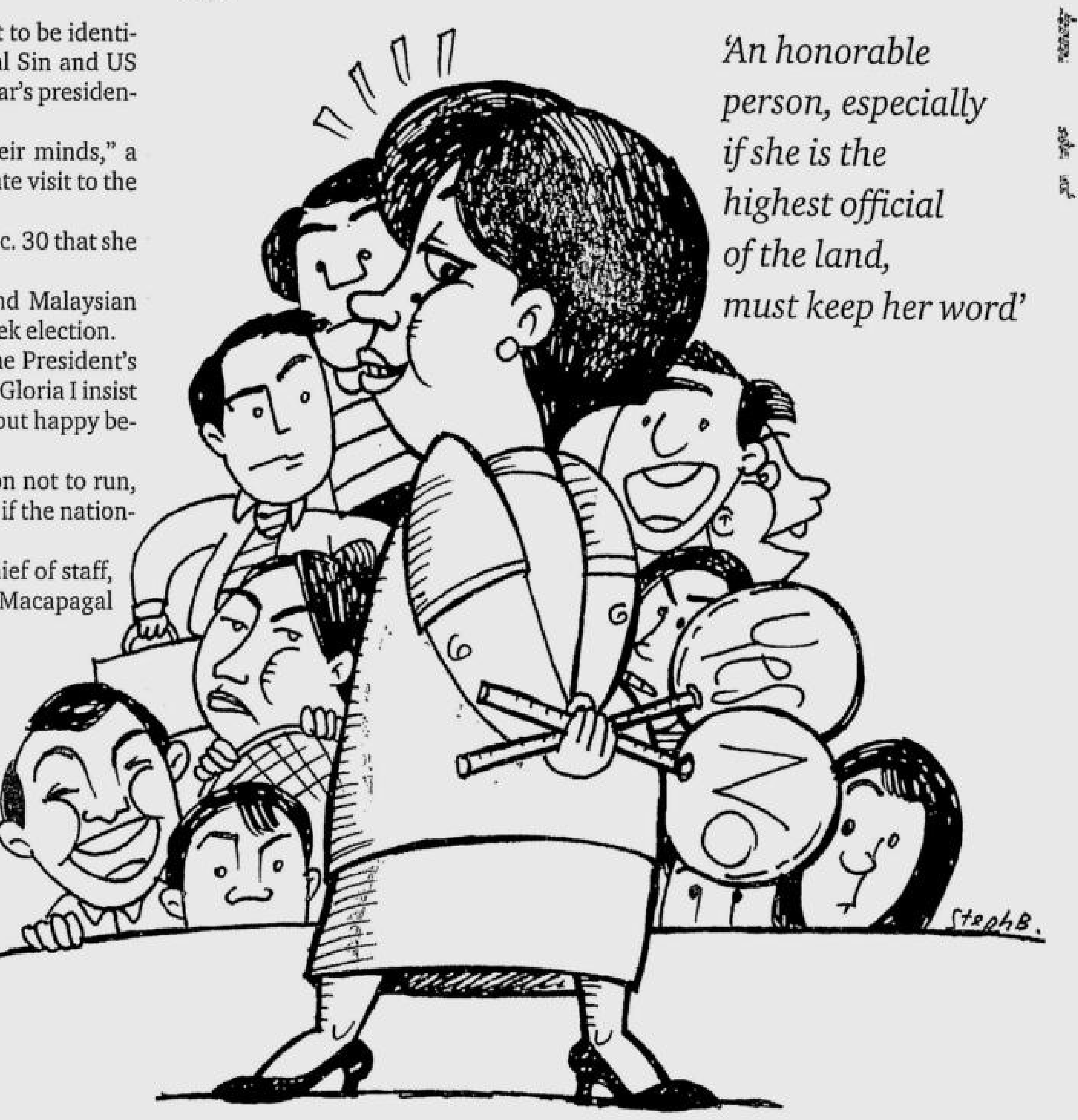
Then it was reported that South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun and Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad were also asking Ms Macapagal to seek election.

Amid the chorus urging the President to run and her rising ratings, the President's husband came out into the open and said that he was asked by Sin to "tell Gloria I insist that she run." First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo said he was "stunned but happy because the cardinal has the gift of prophecy."

Despite Ms Macapagal's insistence that she was sticking to her decision not to run, her chief of staff, Rigoberto Tiglao, said Ms Macapagal might run in 2004 if the national interest called for it.

Just from the statements of the First Gentleman and the President's chief of staff, one can say that Malacañang is conditioning the public mind that Ms Macapagal may join the race in May 2004.

'An honorable person, especially if she is the highest official of the land, must keep her word'



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'Running means she has no word of honor'

SHE has the right to change her mind and run for president next year but it's not an honorable thing for her to do. An honorable person, especially if she is the highest official of the land, must keep her word. I'm sure 90 percent of our people will like her more for keeping her word. The 10 percent, I give that to people who want her to continue being President for their personal gains.—***Ruperto Sampoleo****, civic leader, Cabanatuan City*

Changing her mind is to be expected. That's what her father did. The business community and other sectors are against it. It's OK for me because she was not given a full term. A new term can allow her to fulfill her agenda, but at the expense of her word of honor.—***Lowell Goco****, government employee, Mindoro Oriental*

She has the right to change her mind. But I will have less respect for her if she runs in 2004 because she vowed she would no longer run. I want to see leaders who mean what they say. This is a mark of leadership. She should leave a legacy of *palabra de honor* (word of honor).—***Fr. Vic Tiam****, Solano, Nueva Vizcaya*

She should not run because doing so means that she has no word of honor... unless there is a good reason and there is a persistent public demand.—***Ella Picazo-Pinder****, artist, Tuba, Benguet*

At the moment, she is doing well. She should run. Word of honor is not applicable to politicians. Because she is very much a politician, she can always change her mind. I think she is better than other presidential aspirants. In fact, her performance is better than those of Presidents Ramos and Estrada.—***Leowelyn Banggay****, Caritas Health Insurance, Iloilo City*

From the day she said she would not run in the next elections, I did not believe her. She is still a politician and she has two faces. If the day comes that she retracts, I will not be shocked.—***Dennis Gutierrez****, disc jockey, Baguio*

She will become a hypocrite and people will dislike her (should she decide to run). —***Rex Garcia****, tricycle driver, Bulacan, Bulacan*

'Yes, because she is a woman'

IT is said that a woman has the right to change her mind. So if she changes her mind and runs for president, she is just being a woman.—***Vangie Tumanan****, housewife, Dagupan City*

Yes, because she is a woman.—***Jose Mercado****, president, Merlo Agricultural Corp., Lipa city*

If she runs in 2004, it means she deceived the people by that "not running trick," which was aimed at stopping her critics, especially the opposition, from sowing intrigues against her. In other words, she says one thing and means another.—***Al Llanera****, private employee, Legazpi City*

Yes. But she will have a place in Philippine history as the first President guilty of lying in public.—***Ilio Forsul****, civil engineer, Butuan*

She has the right to change her mind as anyone of us is entitled to. But changing her mind would have a negative impact on her credibility and integrity as the President.—***Mercelita Jandayan-Labial****, high school teacher, Xavier University, Cagayan de Oro*

If she does, she will lose her *palabra de honor* and compromise her position. —***Alex Parpan****, vice president, Association of Television and Radio Announcers, Camarines Sur*

'She has proven her worth'

IT'S the right of any individual to change his/her mind. If she changes her mind and decides to run, it's not bad as long as the welfare of the country is foremost on her mind. Somehow she has proven her worth. She has political will.—***Fr. Philip Atienza****, Social Action director, San Pablo City*

For now, with the way she is doing things, I believe she should go on. It will be good for our country. She has every right to change her mind. In theology, there is no perfect human being, and during elections, we only choose the lesser evil.—***Rev. Dr. C.C. Ganchorre****, pastor, The New Covenant Church (UCCP Inc.), Iloilo City*

She does have a right to change her mind and run again. It will be good for the country so she can continue the economic programs she started. —***Zara Jane Chan****, clerk, Negros Occidental provincial government*

The President has all the right to change her mind. But she must be ruthless and devoid of emotions in carrying out her plans and the rule of law.—***Leoncio M. Clemente****, lawyer, Camarines Sur*

Yes. President Macapagal-Arroyo has shown political will, especially in her campaign against illegal drugs and terrorism. The campaign against illegal drugs and terrorism would become uncertain should a new president take over.—***Jun Bragais****, Naga City*

'National interest prevails over personal interest'

EVERYONE has the right to change his/her mind. Change is the only permanent thing in this world. She may run in 2004. Her statement about not running could just be a strategy.—***James Calisin****, vice governor of Albay*

Yes! National interest prevails over her personal interest. There's no harm for her to run in 2004 but she has to face the criticisms.—***Malik Dumarpa****, commissioner, National Labor Commission's 5th Division, Cagayan de Oro*

She will be doing the country a favor if she continues her unfinished business. —***Steve Santos****, resort owner, Pagudpud, Ilocos Norte*

She has gained her right to run in 2004. I used to be against the idea of her running but I've seen that she's been doing the right thing for the country's economy and public safety, both domestically and internationally. She's cruising at high speed in the right direction, so why stop her?—***Renato Romero****, businessman, Angeles City*

She has all the right to seek the presidency in 2004. With her ratings up, the economy showing recovery and foreign leaders egging her to run, she should reconsider her 2002 declaration (that she would not run.) She must run to sustain the momentum this country has gained under her stewardship.—***Salvador Lim****, businessman, Cotabato City*

She has the right to change her mind, primarily because we are a democratic country. It's fine if the people themselves want her to stand in next year's election. If she really has good plans for the country, then she's good for the country. As of now I see her as a working President, so no problem.—***Jose Briones****, government employee, Albay provincial capitol*

I want the President to run because she is running the country very well. She is doing her best. She has made unpopular decisions but these were for the good of the country. She is a hardworking President and that is what we want. I would campaign for her even if she could hardly win against Fernando Poe Jr. or Noli de Castro.—***Rose Mayleen Samilon****, college student, Mati, Davao Oriental*

Why not? It appears that no one among the presidential aspirants can assure the nation of real progress. Despite some minor defects in the way she runs the government, the President has shown the way toward economic development.—***Alvin Arpon****, former Philippine Information Agency-8 chief, Tacloban City, Leyte*

We have a tough female President admired by heads of state. Why let her go when she is more than qualified to run? —***Jasmin de los Santos****, high school teacher, Cotabato City*

'Let her lose face'

TELL her to go to the market and try selling fish instead of dreaming. —***Ludy Gubatan****, fish vendor, Kidapawan*

Let her renege on her promise not to run in 2004 and lose face. Let her run and lose. We don't need the No. 1 supporter of globalization that is wreaking havoc on the economy.—***Frank Mangulabnan****, cause-oriented group leader, City of San Fernando*

Just like anyone, she is entitled to change her decision if there is a compelling reason to do so. But since this decision concerns the affairs of the state, it would adversely affect her credibility. —***Joy Foronda****, owner, Bel Arte School of Fine Arts, Laoag City*

She shouldn't run for the sake of the country. In fact, she'll be better remembered in history if she sticks to her word (that she will not run as she declared last December).—***Ben Domingo Jr.****, faculty member, Central Luzon State University, Nueva Ecija*

No. We need a real economist more concerned about the country's economic development. The recent Gulf war proves that she does not have the ability to get away from the shadow of (US President George W.) Bush's administration. She sympathized with the US-led war against Iraq instead of giving attention to more relevant issues in the country.—***Troy Valdes****, draftsman, Subic, Zambales*

No, she has no right to change her mind. Why? She is very subservient to the US. It is not in the best interest of the country for a president to always bow to what the US wants.—***Bishop Alan Rey Sarte****, UCCP, Baguio*

'Others are fit to be the next president'

THE PRESIDENT has all the right to change her mind and run for president in 2004, but it's not good for the country. Her performance is poor and I know there are other people who are fit to be the next president. If ever she runs, I am sure she will lose.—***Joel Nebrida****, social science student, Olongapo*

There have been a lot of inconsistencies in her policies. She has been so attached to the US and its policies to the detriment of the Philippine government. Let other candidates do their share in uplifting the plight of the country.—***Ofelia Bautista****, clerk, Cauayan, Isabela*

Her administration is a dismal failure. Another six years of her kind of governance will surely bring the country to ruin.—***Nestor Segismundo****, government employee, Bantay, Ilocos Sur*

She should not break her word or else nobody will believe her. We should have another president.—***Maan Leopando****, Siniloan, Laguna*

Being the President, she should be firm in her word. She can't run again. Our country is mired deeply in poverty so a "real" president should come in. Her continued governance would mean an erratic economy and an uncertain future.—***Ruby Fe Luga****, secretary, Roxas, Isabela*

Let's try another one.—***Tisha****, government employee, Bohol*

She doesn't have the right to run after she announced that she wouldn't seek office. Otherwise, she is just politicking. And it's time to change a President who is spending so much for the military and defense department for all-out wars.—***Joker Daoa****, farmer-leader, Candon, Ilocos Sur*

No, she has no right because she failed to address the farmers' demand for genuine land reform. She also failed to meet the needs of workers and other sectors.—***Avelino Dacanay****, farmer-leader, Caba, La Union*

No, because she will go against her vow. Any politician who makes such public announcement and later retracts loses the public's trust.—***Fortunato Dionisio****, transport operator, Hagonoy, Bulacan*

I just hope that she won't change her mind, because that would impede other credible and dynamic presidential aspirants. Of course, if she decides not to run, then Raul Roco has the edge to win in the election. *Huwag na sana siyang mag à la* chameleon.—***Kristine Llabres****, student, Bicol University.*

She better not change her mind. *Di bibilib ang mga tao. Eh, di talo na s'ya?* —***Olive Telegatos****, Sangguniang Bayan secretary, Batangas City*

Yes, but doing so makes her just like any other *trapo* (traditional politician).—***Gilbert Sebastian****, Philippine Business for Social Progress, Nasugbu, Batangas*

Yes, but it would be better for her not to run in 2004. She failed to solve some of the country's problems, especially the people's economic conditions. —***Maricel Cagara****, saleslady, Alangalang, Leyte*

She should not change her mind. If she runs, it will be bad because she does not keep her word. She will not be good for the country.—***Jorge Mugallanaes****, pontifical server of Bacolod Bishop Vicente Navarra*

I am still undecided whether I would vote for her should she seek reelection in 2004. Perhaps if she did something dramatic that would uplift our living condition, I may vote for her. But I see none. Politicians are all the same. They are all fighting for money and use the poor during election time.—***Marlon Petracio****, balut vendor, Mati, Davao Oriental*

Reports from PDI Northern Luzon Bureau, PDI Central Luzon Desk, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau, PDI Visayas Bureau, and PDI Mindanao Bureau

The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

CIA chief Tenet takes blame for false Iraq claim

WASHINGTON—CIA chief George Tenet on Friday took the blame for US President George W. Bush's erroneous claim that Iraq had sought nuclear arms, a key US justification for the war, as US troops continued to battle resistance on the ground in Iraq.

"I am responsible for the approval process in my agency," Tenet said in a statement shortly after Bush and his national security advisor, Condoleezza Rice, while on a tour of Africa, blamed the error squarely on the Central Intelligence Agency.

Bush made the allegation in his Jan. 28 State of the Union address to Congress in an attempt to garner support for a war on Iraq.

Tenet said these 16 words should have been excised from the speech:

"The British government has learned that Saddam Hussein recently sought significant quantities of uranium from Africa."

None of the biological or chemical weapons US officials said were in Iraq have been found.

On the ground, US troops battled guerrillas ahead of the unveiling of a transitory governing council for Iraq, expected by early next week.

Thirty-one US soldiers have died since Bush declared the war on Iraq effectively over on May 1. The human and financial costs of the occupation are becoming a political hot potato for his administration.

The US Senate unanimously called on Bush to consider requesting Nato and UN forces to occupy Iraq.

"We need more forces ... and we have to make it clear that we're not a force of occupation," said Senator Joseph Biden, top Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

That request came after retired Gen. Tommy Franks, who masterminded the three-week war to topple Saddam Hussein, said the occupation could last four years.

"I anticipate we'll be involved in Iraq in the future," Franks told lawmakers Thursday. "Whether that means two years or four years, I don't know."

US Secretary of State Colin Powell told CNN: "The guts of the work will still have to be done by the United States, Great Britain and the original members of the coalition." One of those members, Spain, approved the deployment of 1,300 military personnel to join a Polish-led force that will take over security in southern Iraq, Spanish Defense Minister Federico Trillo said.

The total 9,200-strong multinational contingent will be stationed in the southern provinces of Qadisiyah and Najaf and is set to become operational in early September.

The Spanish brigade will also include units from the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador on an initial "peace-keeping mission" of six months, Trillo said.

Meanwhile, a UN official said the coalition in Iraq was putting the finishing touches to the transitory Iraqi governing council, due to be unveiled at the weekend or next week.

The coalition was in talks with representatives from the UN and political parties to settle the make-up and brief of the group, which will act as Iraq's executive body pending elections not planned for at least one year.

The body is expected to comprise 25 people —13 Shiites, five Kurds, one Turkmen, one Christian and five Arab Sunnis—reflecting Iraq's population. *AFP*

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Rank	Program	Channel	Ratings(%)
1	Sabado Na Gyud (Cebuano show)	ABS-CBN	19
2-3	Masayang Tanghali Bayan	ABS-CBN	18
2-3	ASAP Mania	ABS-CBN	18
4-5	Eat Bulaga	GMA	10
4-5	Sobrang Okey Pare!	GMA	10

*JUNE 1-28, 2003

TOP 5 MOST-WATCHED VARIETY SHOWS IN DAVAO

Rank	Program	Channel	Ratings(%)
1	Masayang Tanghali Bayan	ABS-CBN	28
2	ASAP Mania	ABS-CBN	24
3	Sayabadaba²do (Dabawenyo show)	ABS-CBN	13
4	Sobrang Okey Pare!	GMA	8
5	Eat Bulaga	GMA	6

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TOP 3 MOST-WATCHED LOCAL NEWS PROGRAMS IN CEBU

Rank	Program	Channel	Ratings(%)
1	TV PATROL Central Visayas	ABS-CBN	19.9
2	Balitang Bisdak	GMA	9.4
3	Newswatch Cebu Edition	RPN	0.4

*JUNE 1-28, 2003

TOP 4 MOST-WATCHED LOCAL NEWS PROGRAMS IN DAVAO

Rank	Program	Channel	Ratings(%)
1	TV PATROL Southern Mindanao	ABS-CBN	31
2	Testigo GMA Balita	GMA	6
3	Davao Express Balita	IBC	0.9
4	Arangkada sa Nueve	RPN	0.4

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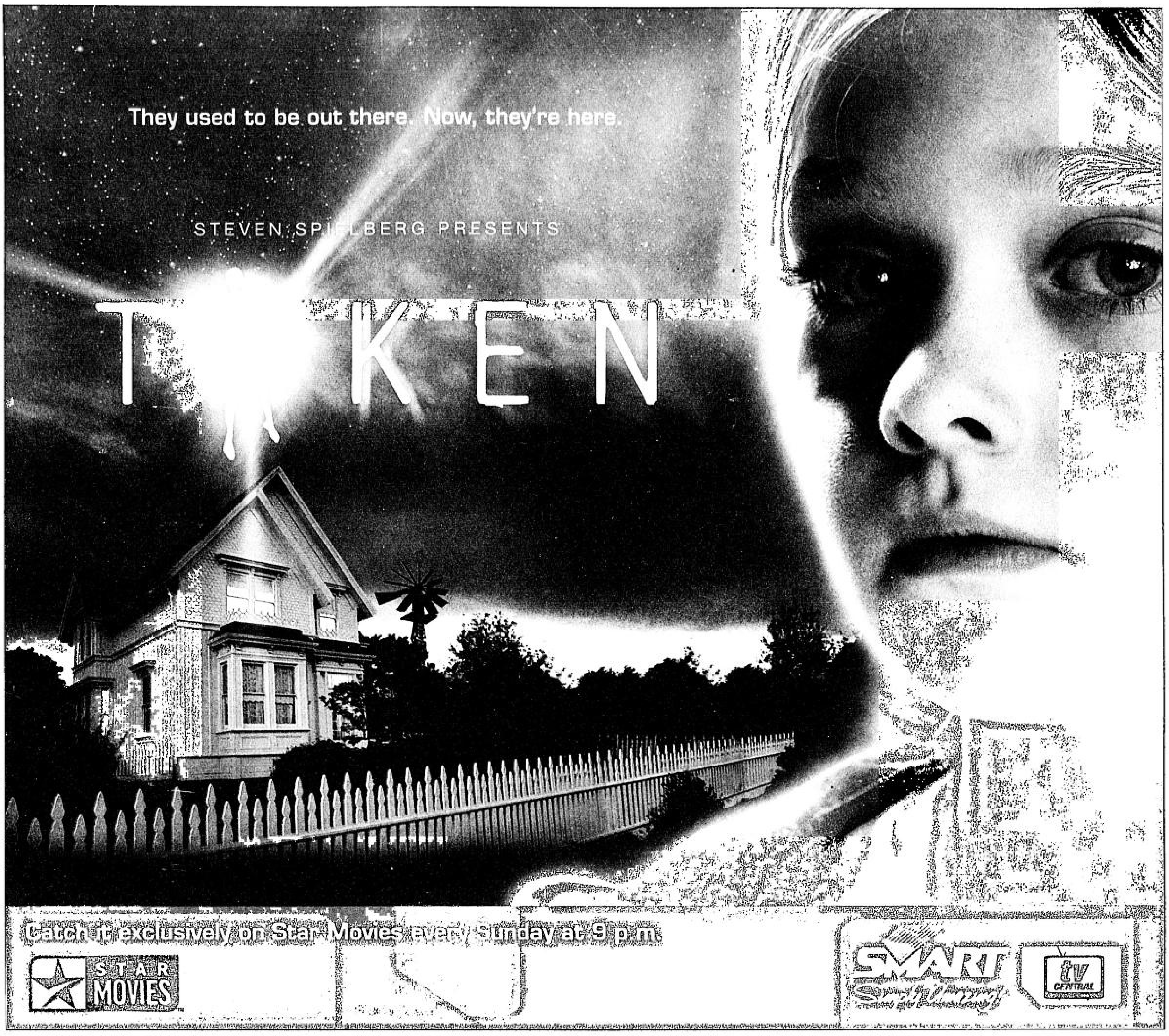
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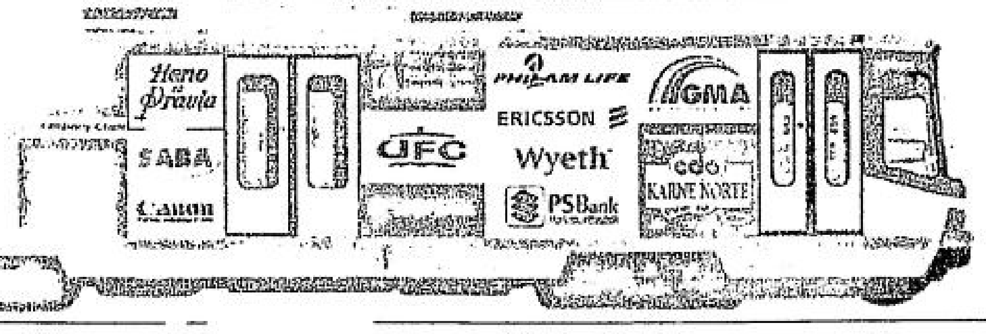
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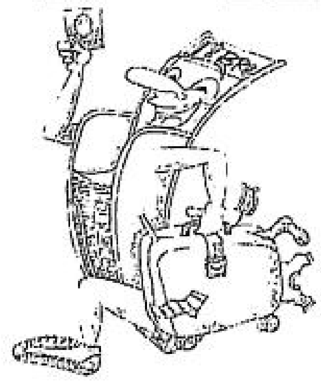

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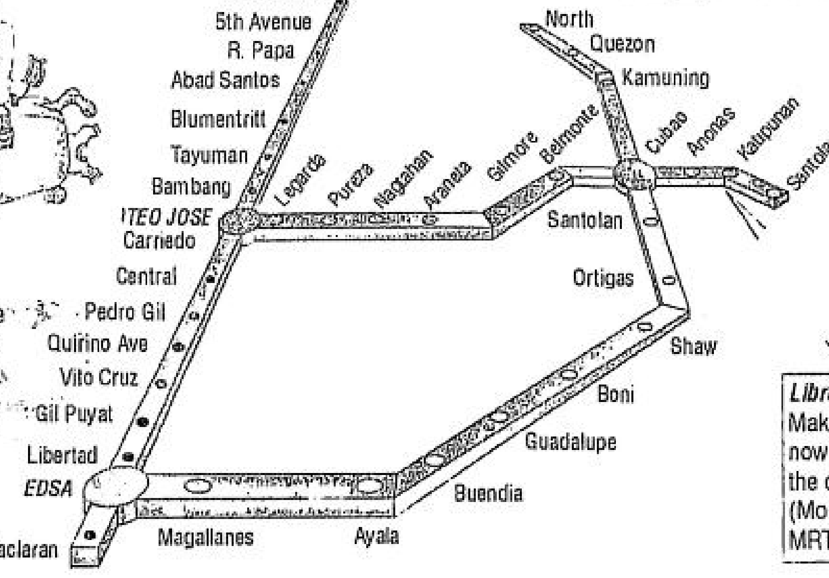
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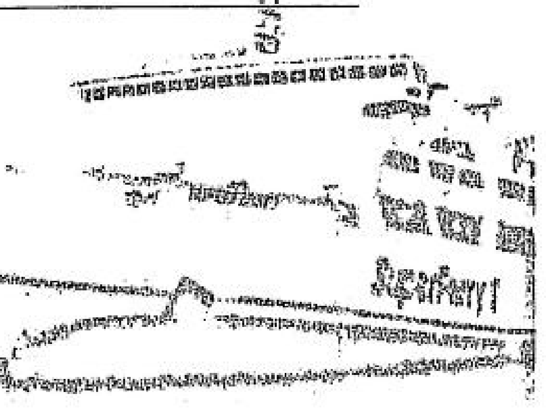
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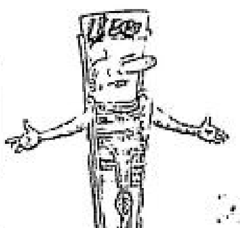


African leaders back new security council

MAPUTO—African leaders meeting in Maputo offered wide support Friday for a Peace and Security Council which will be able to send peacekeeping troops to quash genocidal wars on the continent.

Senegalese President Abdoulaye Wade said heads of state meeting at the second summit of the African Union (AU) discussed defense and the setting up of the council at a closed session.

"It was widely supported," he said, but added that no decisions had been made.

The establishment of the council is regarded as a top priority at the summit.

The body is loosely modelled on the United Nations Security Council and will have the power to deploy what will be called the African Standby Force to intervene in wars involving crimes against humanity.

Outgoing AU chair Thabo Mbeki of South Africa said at the opening of the three-day summit on Thursday that a decision should be made to get the council off the ground by the end of the year.

By Friday, 17 countries had ratified its protocol—five more than at the beginning of the week when only 12 had endorsed it. A minimum of 27 are required.

Mbeki urged countries dragging their feet to move into action.

"Those of us who are delaying with the ratifications of the protocol must please deal with that question so we can move ahead," he told delegates.

The council is crucial for Africa which needs to show the rest of the world that it is capable of solving its own problems—and the some 20 conflicts on the continent.

The summit is discussing about 10 conflicts, including those in the huge Great Lakes region in central Africa, Liberia and the Ivory Coast.

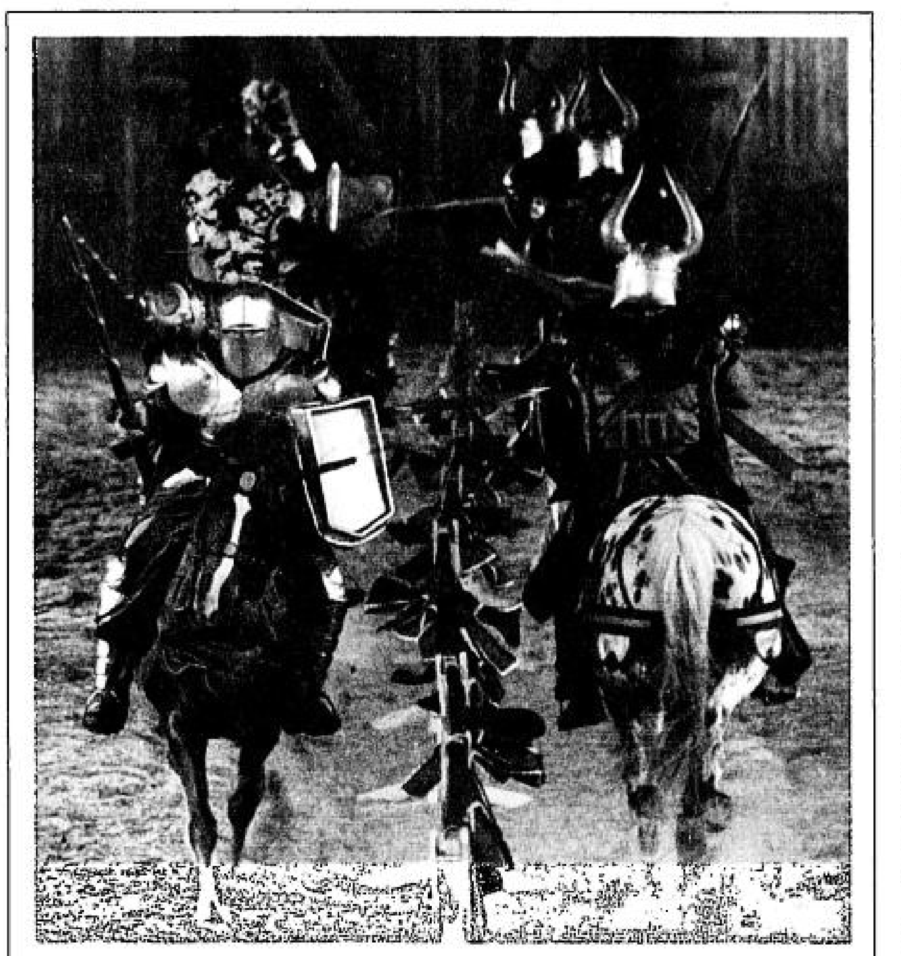
The European Union envoy to the Great Lakes, Aldo Ajello, however expressed reservations about the possibility of peace in the central African region in an interview with state-run Radio Mozambique earlier Friday.

"There is no political will in the Great Lakes with some deliberately promoting hostilities for personal gains," he said.

European Commission chairman Romano Prodi said the European Union was committed to providing support for peacekeeping in Africa.

"I came here to demonstrate the importance of Africa to the European Union and to propose resources to peacekeeping in Africa," he said.

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan was supposed to have met with representatives from the Great Lakes on the fringes of the AU summit, but the meeting was called off because Democratic Republic of Congo President Joseph Kabila is absent from Maputo. *AFP*



DROPOUTS FROM A CAR DEMOLITION DERBY

Six men on horses, dressed as knights, hit each other during a historical jousting match in Kaltenberg near Munich, July 11. The historical games, which are a traditional Bavarian event, take place every year and last three weeks. REUTERS

Impostor hitches ride in W. House press plane

ENTEBBE, Uganda—In a major security breach, a man posing as a journalist hitched a ride aboard the White House press plane from South Africa to Uganda on Friday, officials in Kampala said.

Ugandan security sources who asked not to be identified said the man was South African and confirmed he had boarded the press plane, a Boeing 747, in Pretoria.

The man was intercepted at Entebbe International Airport, which serves the Ugandan capital, and taken by police to the Imperial Botanical Beach Hotel for questioning by US agents.

Outside a press center at the hotel, an AFP journalist saw slightly alarmed US agents talking to a man who had none of the badges worn by other reporters and officials.

"He says he is a journalist (...) he doesn't have a passport," said one of the US officials.

He was later taken into Ugandan police custody.

"Yes, we have him. We are investigating the motive of his sneaking into the American delegation," police spokesperson Asuman Mugenyi said.

"After our investigations we shall deport him back to South Africa," he added.

At about the same time as the man was being questioned at the hotel, Bush was in the building for talks his Ugandan counterpart, Yoweri Museveni.

The man held an envelope marked "press cuttings," and asked where Bush was due to speak, officials said.

White House reporters are required to wear press credentials at all times, and security is often tight around locations known as filing centers where they write their stories. *AFP*

Surgeons say twins insisted on surgery

WASHINGTON—The surgeons who operated on Iranian twins Ladan and Laleh Bijani tried to convince them not to have an operation to separate their fused heads, but the women insisted, a US doctor from the team said in an interview broadcast on Friday.

Dr. Ben Carson said he never thought the operation had a reasonable chance of success. And he said members of the surgical team that operated on the women made "a great deal of effort" to try to talk them out of it beforehand.

Ladan and Laleh died on Tuesday, 90 minutes apart, from a severe loss of blood as doctors were in the final stages of the marathon operation to separate them in Singapore.

"They absolutely could not be dissuaded," Carson, director of pediatric neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins University Hospital in Baltimore, said in the interview with ABC News' "Nightline" program.

"I think even if one minute before surgery, they had said, 'We've changed our minds,' we all would have been extremely happy," he said of the surgical team.

The women had simply reiterated that their lives as conjoined twins "were worse than death," Carson said in the interview, a transcript of which was provided by ABC News ahead of the broadcast. *Reuters*

UK's first Iraq dossier also doubted

LONDON—The British government faced a fresh allegation Saturday that last September's dossier on Iraq used information lifted from the Internet to reinforce the case for war just as did the later, now discredited "dodgy" dossier, published in February.

The Independent newspaper reported that the document showed at least six separate items on Saddam's alleged weapons of mass destruction were lifted from reports up to 21 months old.

Downing Street has acknowledged that it made a mistake in failing to credit work by an American student used in its February dossier, but has stoutly defended the integrity of the September document.

But The Independent claimed that the earlier dossier drew heavily on sources already in the public domain.

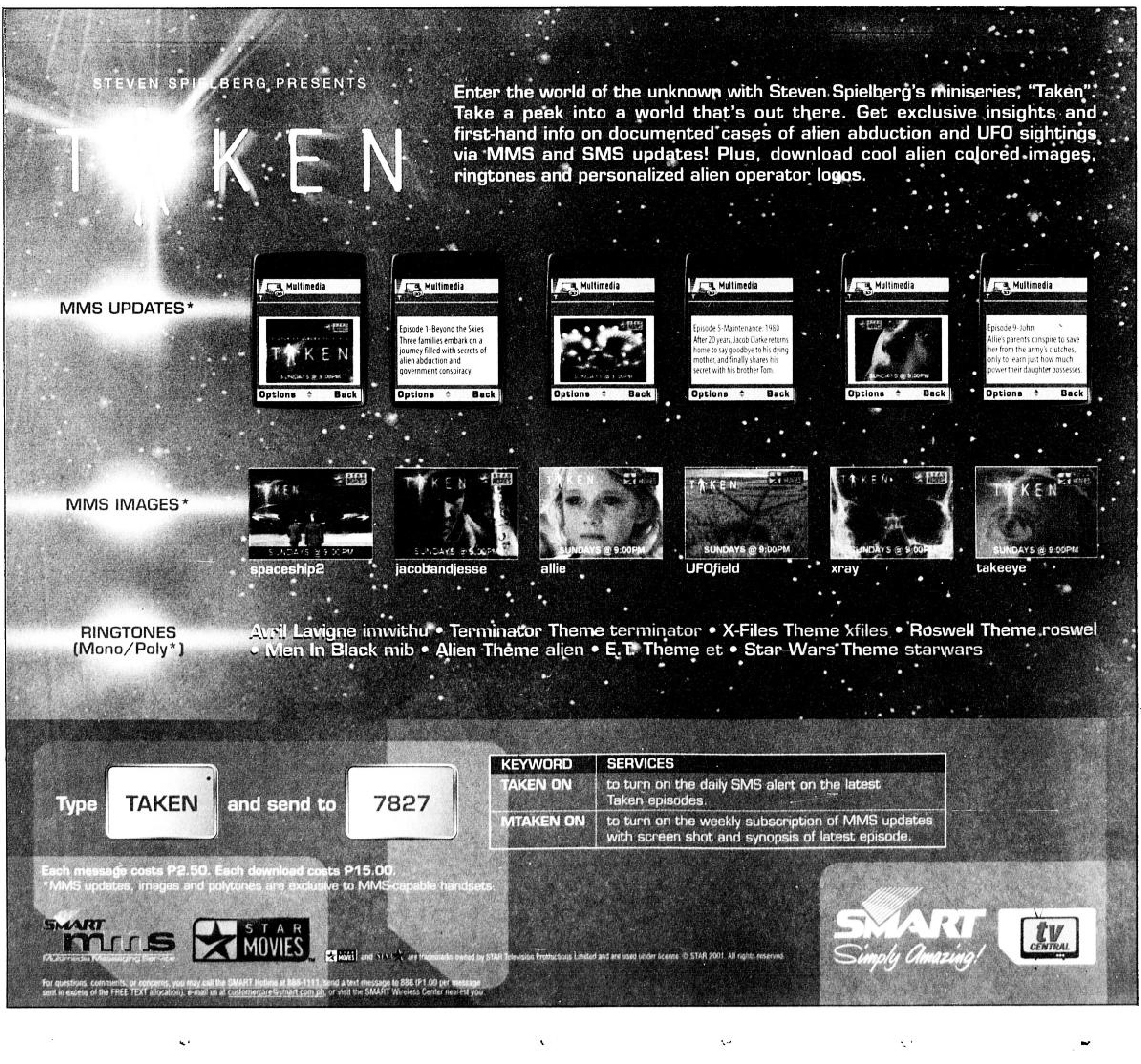
They were a briefing paper by William Cohen, US Defense Secretary in the Clinton administration, from January 2001; the appearance before the Senate select committee on intelligence by CIA director George Tenet the following month; an unclassified CIA report to Congress covering the period July 1 to Dec. 31, 2000; and a report on Iraq by the International Institute for Strategic Studies published in London last September.

These pieces of evidence included references to ballistic missiles; unmanned drones; nuclear programs; "dual use" of civil materials; maps showing how British bases in Cyprus were within range of Iraqi missiles; and Saddam's supposed plan for regional domination.

A Downing Street spokesperson noted that during his appearance before the Commons foreign affairs select committee earlier this week Prime Minister Tony Blair stood by the intelligence material presented to the public.

"We have said all we have to say on this," the spokesperson said.

There is considerable doubt in London and Washington over the strength of the US and British case for ending UN arms inspections and launching the March 20 invasion to topple the Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein. *AFP*



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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SUNDAY, JULY 13, 2003

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Satur urges inventory of arrest cases

By Vincent Cabreza and Desiree Caluza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—Just how many people killed former rebel priest Conrado Balweg in 1999?

From the number of people the military had sued before the courts, the last count should be 16 Balweg assassins.

Fourteen of these cases have been junked by the courts, but more and more people now face the same charges from the military as it intensifies its operations against so-called communist front organizations, Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo said on Saturday.

Ocampo sought an inventory to determine how many such cases had been brought to the courts, saying the military's agenda might transcend mere harassment.

Even Balweg's widow, Corazon Cortel, is finding the series of military arrests "confusing."

"Since my husband's murder, the (Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines) had been bringing to court so many fall guys. Nothing is happening to his case. They tell me it is still open, but the arrests they make seem to be political in nature, rather than a resolution to find justice for Ambo (Balweg)," Cortel-Balweg told the INQUIRER on Thursday.

Since 2000, 14 church workers and nongovernment organizations' officials had been released by the Abra Regional Trial Court, including Lorna Rivera Baba, whom the ISAFP tagged as the "mastermind" in Balweg's slay.

Despite these legal setbacks, human rights lawyers said the military continued to file suits against NGO members, which ranged from the Dec. 31, 1999 murder of Balweg to the blasting of the Marcos bust in Taloy Sur, Tuba, on Dec. 29, 2002.

A lawyer said the pattern appeared to have no advantage to the military except to harass suspected communist rebels. "Their charges usually rely on witnesses whom courts later declare as unfit. Therefore, the military lawyers already expect acquittals every time they file these cases. And yet they continue to do so. We don't know why," he said.

On the surface, the military's legal strategy appears to be "mere harassment against NGOs," Ocampo said.

But a recent article in the AFP newsletter Tala provided Bayan Muna with new perspectives about the military's agenda against NGOs.

The article by Lt. Col. John Bonafos suggested that the military is more interested in public organizations that help human rights cases.

Bonafos identified Bayan Muna as a "communist terrorist" front, which "threatens the country's security."

Ocampo said the military's judicial machinery had been decimated when the subversion law was voided by the Ramos administration.

"The military has been having a tough time using laws to prosecute suspected communists, so the kind of cases they file against people has been weak or mishandled," he said in Filipino.

"But the military had always found civil and criminal prosecution unwieldy. (Even on the years prior to the end of martial law), the military had tried to use crime as a convenient alternative to subversion charges. That's why we were charged with common crimes, but we always managed to evade them," he said.

A CHILD is tested for malaria through blood smearing in Barangay Lipuga, Alfonso Castañeda, Nueva Vizcaya. BEN MOSES EBREO

DOH urged to help combat malaria in Nueva Vizcaya

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya—The contractor of the Casecnan Multi-Purpose Irrigation and Power Project (CMIPP) in Alfonso Castañeda town has asked the Department of Health to bolster its campaign against the malaria epidemic affecting Bugkalot villages in the town.

The epidemic, which has affected Barangays Pelaway, Lipuga, Cawayan and Abaca in Alfonso Castaneda town, and Barangays Talbec and Abuyo in Dupax del Sur town, has killed at least 14 people and affected close to 200 villagers.

In a statement sent to the INQUIRER, Robert Eugenio, Cal Energy International vice president for government affairs, said the company was concerned about the crisis and hoped that the national government would provide "maximum support" to the provincial government's anti-malaria measures.

Cal Energy operates the CMIPP in Barangay Pelaway, one of the hardest hit villages.

"The epidemic is an alarming problem especially since it affects the Bugkalots who have no access to medical supplies," Eugenio said.

He said the provincial and municipal governments and local health offices have been prompt in responding to the epidemic and are doing their best to treat those who have fallen ill.

"We are coordinating closely with local health authorities on how we could help contain this epidemic," Eugenio said.

He said Cal Energy has been donating anti-malaria medicines since the disease struck last May and has extended financial assistance for the purchase of insecticides.

Cal Energy also said an environmental survey conducted by the DOH's National Epidemiology Center showed that four creeks in the affected villages were identified as possible breeding grounds of malaria-carrying mosquitoes.

Eugenio said the company lent its heavy equipment in cleaning up clogged waterways identified as breeding sites of mosquitoes.

"The CMIPP weirs (small dams) are small and the project design ensures that the collected water is not stored for a prolonged period," he said.

The CMIPP diverts water from the Casecnan and Taan rivers to the Pantabangan reservoir through a 26-kilometer tunnel. The siphoned water is stored in the CMIPP's weirs. *Ben Moses Ebreo, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Opening of Eastern Visayas consular office in Tacloban marred by controversy

By Joey A. Gabieta
PDI Visayas Bureau

TACLOBAN CITY—The long wait is finally over.

The Department of Foreign Affairs on Friday opened its Regional Consular Office (RCO) in this city to serve those applying for passports in Eastern Visayas.

Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Franklin Ebdalin said the setting up of the RCO was in response to the clamor of the people in the region.

"I am happy that we have now our regional consular office here in Tacloban City. We expect a lot of clients here considering its sizable population," he told the INQUIRER.

Flora Belina Bacosa, regional consular officer, said about 40 to 50 percent of those applying for passports at the RCO in Cebu came from Eastern Visayas. Others, she added, chose to travel to Manila to secure their passports there.

Ebdalin and Bacosa joined local officials in the inauguration of the RCO-Eastern Visayas at the Small and Medium Enterprises and Development (SMED) Center.

Different sites

Among those in the inauguration were Leyte Gov. Remedios Petilla, Leyte Rep. Ted Failon and Presidential Assistant for East Visayas Victor Domingo.

Ebdalin said Foreign Affairs Secretary Blas Ople was not able to come because he had other pressing commitments in Manila.

The inauguration was, however, marred by a controversy between Failon and Petilla who had wanted different sites for the RCO.

Failon had asked Ople to place the RCO at the one-story building, which was constructed using Failon's pork barrel fund at the Government Center in Barangay Candahug, Palo town.

The congressman claimed that Ople had agreed to his request but the venue was suddenly transferred to the SMED Center in Tacloban because Petilla allegedly made a lobby to President Macapagal-Arroyo.

'Prodded'

Failon, the lone opposition congressman in Leyte, lamented that the President allowed herself to be "prodded" by the governor.

But Petilla denied Failon's claim. "Why? Am I that influential that I can prod the President of the land?" retorted Petilla.

She said the establishment of an RCO in Eastern Visayas has been planned for years. In fact, she added, City Mayor Alfredo "Bejo" Romualdez, a political rival, had been clamoring for an RCO in the region when he was the chair of the Regional Development Council in 1999.

Failon said he would give way, saying he was not out "to satisfy my ego but to satisfy the services needed by our people."

Petilla said she felt sorry for the controversy that the venue of the RCO had caused. "But we are only after the people's convenience," she stressed.

Bacolod bishop hits 'aswang' beheading

By Carla P. Gomez
PDI Visayas Bureau

BACOLOD CITY—Bacolod Bishop Vicente Navarra on Thursday condemned the beheading of an elderly couple in Cauayan town, Negros Occidental who were suspected of being *aswang* (witches).

"It is about time that we reexamine our faith. We should not allow ourselves to be carried away by our superstitious beliefs. We should recognize that it is God who has the true power over this world and our lives," Navarra said.

He also stressed that no one has the right to take justice into their own hands by killing others.

Generoso Casupong, 65, and his wife, Isabelita, 64, were beheaded inside their home in Sitio Si-alay, Barangay Bulata, Cauayan last Saturday.

Tagged as suspects in the killing were the couple's two neighbors Eugenio Quilla Tanguar, 43, and Carlito Talo Hibolan, 28, and the son-in-law, Rosendo Lompot Cabug-os.

Cabug-os denied any hand in the brutal slaying of his in-laws.

But Tanguar showed no remorse about killing the elderly couple, saying they did the "right thing."

He earlier said in a radio interview that he had long been after Isabelita whom he suspected to be an *aswang* who caused the death of his child last year.

Hibolan, an uncle of Tanguar's wife, allegedly agreed to the plan to kill the couple after Cabug-os confirmed their suspicions that the Casupongs were *aswangs*.

Tanguar said he beheaded Isabelita with a scythe. He then rubbed ashes and put salt on the stump of head to prevent it from reconnecting to the body.

Hibolan grabbed hold of Generoso who struggled. He said he hacked Generoso repeatedly before he managed to cut Generoso's neck although the head was not fully severed.

"He was shouting for help and I was in a hurry to kill him because I know *aswangs* are strong and I was afraid he might overpower me," Hibolan said.

According to the Philippine folklore, an *aswang* is an evil creature that can assume different forms and harass people at night especially pregnant women.

But Navarra said the Church's stand is that there are no *aswangs* although some people might be influenced by evil spirits.

He said the killings should not be carried out because "there was no proof that these people were *aswang* or possessed by evil spirits and it was pitiful for the victims" to meet that kind of end.

"We should recognize that whatever happens in our lives, good or bad, God has a message for us," he added.

Navarra said the suspects should have gone to the courts to resolve whatever grievance they had against the couple.

Those who feared the supposed *aswang* should have sought guidance from their priests and listen to what the Church had to say on such matters, instead of just killing them, he added.

"The lives of others should be given proper value," Navarra said.

Another antique religious icon stolen in Cebu

By Jhunnex Napallacan
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—Unidentified suspects on Thursday stole the antique icon of the Blessed Virgin from a chapel in Barangay Colonia, Tuburan town.

Lorenzo Lim, the chapel's president who resides near the chapel, found that the image was missing at about 8 a.m. Thursday.

It was believed that the suspects took the image of the Birhen de los Remedios (Our Lady of Remedies) before 2 a.m. that day, said PO3 Mily Regulacion, Tuburan police investigator.

He said the suspects were able to get inside the chapel by climbing through the gap between the door and the ceiling.

Regulacion said two unidentified men carrying a huge bag boarded a Cebu City-bound passenger bus near the chapel at about that time.

A truck-boy of the Corominas Bus Liner told the police that the two men declined his offer to carry the bag while they were boarding the bus.

The police said the two suspects disembarked in Sitio Tabada, Barangay Mambaling, Cebu City, near the house of an antique buyer.

Antonio Blanco, barangay chair of Colonia, said they did not expect that the image of their patron saint would be stolen because it had been in the chapel since the Spanish era.

Blanco said the image was owned by the ancestors of the Laurel family, who initiated the construction of the chapel for the Birhen de los Remedios.

The barangay celebrates its fiesta every Dec. 27 and 28.

The image of the Birhen de los Remedios was made of *Bayong*, a hard wood specie. It weighed about 40 kilograms and about three feet tall. Residents in Barangay Colonia said the image was more than 100 years old.

ROUNDUP

Cell phone thieves nabbed

BACOOR, Cavite—Police arrested three suspected members of a cell phone-snatching gang and confiscated several ammunitions during a raid in Barangay Zapote 1 on Wednesday. Arrested were Alvin Cebuga, 20; his brother Ariel, 19, and Benjie Sasaga, 33, all residents of the place. Confiscated from the suspects were an improvised handgun, a .22 cal revolver with live ammunition, a knife and suspected shabu weighing 1 milligram.

Fausto Tatad Jr., PDI Southern Luzon

Man runs amuck

GENERAL TRIAS, Cavite—A drug-crazed man ran amuck and shot and killed his two friends during a birthday party in Barangay Biclatan on Wednesday, police said. The victims were Pio Penaflor, 49, a government employee and resident of Barangay Virata, General Mariano Alvarez, and Julious Agustin, a businessman and resident of Barangay Malagasang, Imus. The suspect was Marvin Mayorga, 25, an employee of Barangay Biclatan, Gen. Trias. The suspect fled with the firearm and is now the object of a police manhunt.

Fausto Tatad Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

5 hurt in mishap

SILANG, Cavite—Five persons were seriously injured when a wayward V-150 Armored Personnel Carrier (APC) slammed into two Tagaytay-bound vehicles in Barangay Puting Kahoy on Sunday. Chief Insp. Conrado Gongon, town police chief, said witnesses saw the APC cruising in the northbound lane when it went into the opposite lane and slammed into a Toyota Lite Ace and Corolla car. The impact sent the two small cars smashing into the road's metal railings. Drivers Santiago Bondoc and Delfin Cruz both suffered serious bone fractures in arms and feet. Two other women passengers were hurt. Witnesses said the driver of the APC, identified as PO2 Gerard Antolin, looked drunk as he came out of the vehicle.

Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Quezon search

THE ANNUAL search for outstanding citizens of Quezon Province is now on. This was announced by CPA-lawyer Antonio P. Acyatan who is on his third year as chair of the Quezon Day Awards Committee (QDAC), according to a news release. Nominations must be submitted to the QDAC before July 20. The awarding will be held on August 19 at the new Quezon Convention Center in Lucena City.

A. Obienda; 67

ROXAS CITY—Presiding Judge Armando Gaspar Obienda of the regional trial court in Mambusao, Capiz died of lung cancer on July 6. He was 67. "Mandy" to his close friends and relatives, Obienda died at his sickbed in their house on Elieta Street. He is survived by his wife Anna, 54, and four children—Arman, 33, Gino, 28, Nikki, 26, and May Anne, 22. His interment will be on July 19 at 1 p.m. at the Ivisan Catholic Cemetery after a necrological service at the Ivisan Church.

Gerry T. Pagharion, PDI Visayas Bureau

FLOWERS FOR GRASS

Farmers get anthuriums to stop marijuana growing

By Nathan Alcantara
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

KAPANGAN, Benguet—Although police raids are the norm in fighting the drug menace, officials in this remote Cordillera town known for its marijuana plantation are trying to exchange "flowers for grass."

Mayor Rogelio Leon is making good his promise of providing anthurium plants to the seven known marijuana-planting sitios in this town to ease poverty by providing alternative livelihood activities for the residents.

Leon said he embarked on this project to stop the cultivation of marijuana.

He said about 2,000 anthurium plants were turned over to local elders and farmer leaders of Sitio Lao-Angan on Monday to start the project.

Leon, in a telephone interview, said the plants worth P50,000 were bought using municipal funds. He said the plants would be given free but the municipal peace and order council, the implementor of the "Flowers for Grass" project, would monitor the project.

He said the farmers would be encouraged to propagate more plants, as they would be the sources of other farmers who would want to shift to the flowers.

It is "unjust and unfair" that his town is pictured as a haven of marijuana growers when studies have shown that only seven sitios in four of the 13 barangays are engaged in illegal cultivation and trade of the weed, Leon said.

Leon chided marijuana farmers, saying the money they earn from marijuana could neither buy a clear conscience nor make them sleep well at night because of fear of being arrested.

He said while residents know who the planters are and even the agents who come to pick up the marijuana harvest, no arrests have been made by the police.

What is worse is that children are employed in the cleaning, preparation and transport of marijuana, he said. He said the youngest recorded case was that of a Grade 5 pupil in the town.

Poverty and the prospect of a big profit were the primary reasons cited by farmers for planting marijuana, Leon said.

Farmers said marijuana needs less farm inputs and is convenient to store because it can be dried and kept longer.

Marijuana is also easy to transport, as there are buyers who go to the farms, removing the marketing problem, the farmers said.

The cultivators said they were forced to plant marijuana because of the absence of farm-to-market roads that deters them from planting other crops.

But the absence of roads, they added, works to their advantage because the plantation sites could only be reached by foot, making them escape long before raiding teams could pounce on them.

Fruit trees and cut flowers surfaced as an alternative to marijuana considering the experience of former Councilor Paulino Burcio, a successful anthurium grower and trader in the town.

Burcio was the source of the plants given to Sitio Lao-Angan, Leon said.

Leon said Burcio is already preparing the second batch of plants worth P200,000 that will be bought by the regional Department of Agriculture for the six other marijuana-planting sitios.

The next beneficiaries of the project are sitios Alem, Copias, Liteng, Tadayan, Tawang and Toplac.

Gov't targets 'strategic, significant results' in war against drugs—Lina

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—One-third of 13 transnational drug syndicates, one-third of 174 local drug groups and one-third of drug pushers and traffickers, and one-third of drug-affected barangays gone in three months.

These targets would be met to achieve "strategic and significant results" in the government's fight against illegal drugs, Interior Secretary Jose Lina Jr. said on July 5.

Speaking with reporters after the command conference presided by President Macapagal-Arroyo at Clark's "White House," Lina said: "One-third, one-third, one-third. That is the key number . . . and they have all been identified."

"Its all systems go," Lina, chair of the Dangerous Drugs Board, added.

The meeting was the second command conference held since the Macapagal administration launched its renewed crackdown on the trade and use of illegal substances.

Lina, together with Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency chief Anselmo Avenido and police anti-drug task force head Deputy Director Gen. Edgardo Aglipay also announced that law enforcement agencies are deeply involved in achieving the target.

"(They) will do everything possible to meet the target in the three months' time. And the target is to produce strategic and significant results (so) that the people would see and feel the impact of the campaign against illegal drugs in various communities all over the country," Lina explained.

Asked how the drive plans to go after the so-called big fishes, Lina admitted it was "difficult to pin down the drug lords" because the prosecution of cases against them needs "proof beyond reasonable doubt."

According to him, leaders of these big drug syndicates including their protectors have been identified and the government was determined to prosecute them.

He said he was confident that the groups of Avenido and Aglipay would go into a "systematic gathering of evidence" against powerful drug lords and their protectors.

In the three-month period, Lina said the government would also fast track the opening of more rehabilitation centers in the country to accommodate the users who have surfaced and want treatment.

Jails, he said, would also be expanded to ease overcrowding.

In Friday's meeting, the President instructed Lina and police officials to tap the P1-billion anti-drugs drive fund for these initiatives.

Lina said by the third week of July, judges, prosecutors and policemen are organizing a "colloquium" to realize the "speedy and impartial disposition" of drug related cases.

"If the cases are not resolved fast, the campaign will also be affected and the citizens might think that there's nothing happening because of the low conviction rate," Lina noted.

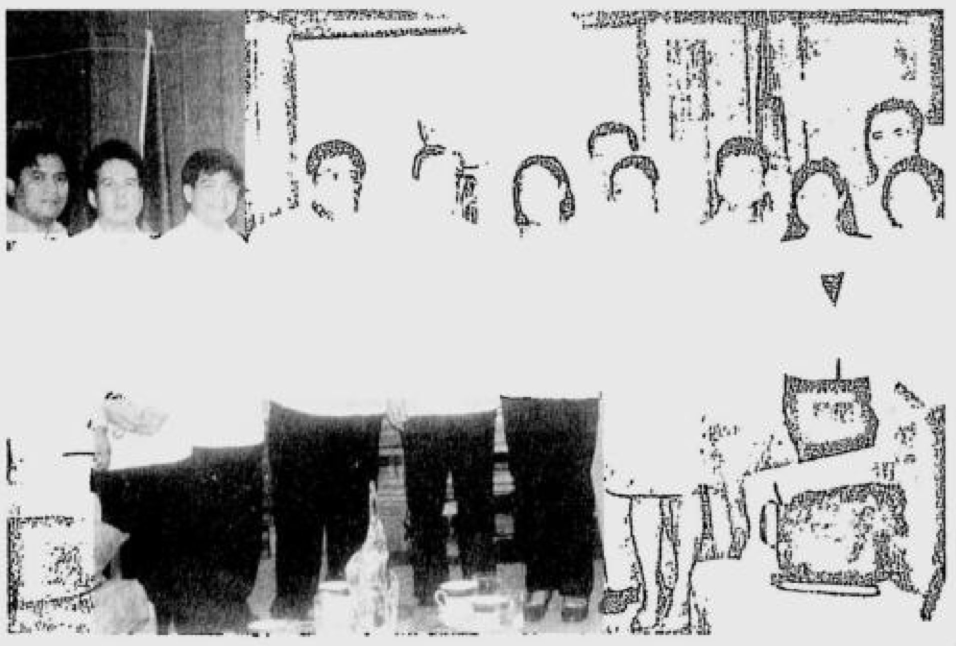
Asked if the three-month work period was realistic, Lina said this was the time frame given by Ms Macapagal herself to the DDB, PDEA and the police.

Avenido said the campaign's target was reached during a Saturday workshop, which Director General Hermogenes Ebdane Jr., PNP chief, and Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes also attended.

"One-third of the entire number was doable and we will produce the impact that the President wanted," Avenido said.

Aglipay also reported that 93 police officers and PNP personnel had been administratively charged for drug-related offenses.

In the latest drug watch of the PNP, Central Luzon ranked first among regions where drug trade and use was rampant. Southern Tagalog and Metro Manila came next. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*



LAWYERS' SUPPORT
THE INTEGRATED Bar of the Philippines in Central Luzon through its immediate past governor, lawyer Pete S. Principe and the new IBP governor, Dante G. Ilay has committed its support to the Supreme Court in a resolution which it passed recently. The resolution said "the filing of the impeachment complaint against the Supreme Court Justices and the holding of pickets at their homes and offices (should) be denounced and condemned as unwarranted attacks against the Supreme Court itself as an institution." The officers headed by Principe (fourth from left) and Ilaya (third from left) presents the resolution to Chief Justice Hilario G. Davide Jr. Other IBP Central Luzon Officers from left are Victor P. De Dios, Jr., Vicente D. Bordador, Alejandria J. Genota, Teodoro Camacho III (party hidden at the back), Ma. Cristina G. Laderas, Renato Santiago, Maria Soledad M. Santos, Rosalinda B. Kawada and Anthony Jay Consunji.

WESTMONT
Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

HAYAANG DUMALOY ANG DIARRHEA,

Hindi Sakit ang Diarrhea

Tunay na malaking problema ang magka-diarrhea ang inyong anak. Ngunit kontra sa paniniwala ng karamihan, ang diarrhea ay hindi isang sakit na kailangan gamutin. Sa katunayan, mahalaga ang diarrhea sa paglilinis ng digestive system (tiyan at bituka) ng inyong anak.

Ito ay natural na depensa ng kanyang katawan. Ito ang paraan ng bituka sa pag-alis ng mga nakakalason o nakakasamang bagay sa loob nito. Katulad ito ng pag-ubo para matanggal ang plema sa daanan ng hangin (airways).

Ang payo ng mga doktor ay hayaan tumuloy ang diarrhea upang matanggal ang nagdudulot nito. Hanggang pinipigil ang diarrhea, hindi malilinis ang digestive system at magtutuloy-tuloy ang sakit. Ang dapat gawin ay iwasan ang mga komplikasyong maaring magresulta dahil sa diarrhea.

Dehydration ang Tunay na Panganib.

Kasama sa diarrhea ang pagkawala ng tubig at electrolytes sa katawan. Ito ang tunay na panganib, ang DEHYDRATION.

Ang tubig at electrolytes ay mga importanteng sangkap-buhay na kailangan sa maayos na pagtakbo ng puso at bato. Komplikasyon ang resulta kapag nagkulang ang katawan sa mga ito.

Pananamlay at panunuyo ng labi ang mga unang palatandaan (symptoms). Kapag hindi ito naagapan, tutuloy ito sa komplikasyon sa puso at bato. Kapag ganito na kaseryoso, sa ospital na dadalhin ang inyong anak sa halip na sa banyo.

Hindi Sapat Ang Tubig o Am

Ang nakasanayang ibigay sa bata kapag siya'y may diarrhea ay tubig at *am* (rice water). Ang hindi alam ng maraming mga magulang ay kulang ito sa paglaban sa dehydration. Hindi nito maibabalik ang kinakailangang electrolytes na nawala sa katawan ng bata.

Tamang Solusyon sa Dehydration

Ano ang dapat ibigay sa inyong anak? Ayon sa World Health Organization,Oral Rehydration Solution o ORS. Ito lang ang may tamang kombinasyon ng tubig at electrolytes na kailangan ng katawan pag may diarrhea.

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Saving the Huluga heritage landmark

By Ellen Red
Cagayan de Oro City

HISTORIANS, cultural teachers and tourism officials in Cagayan de Oro have warned city officials against destroying the Huluga site, a declared heritage landmark, before they begin construction of a flagship project, the south diversion road and bridge across the Cagayan de Oro River.

"Huluga is home of the original people of Cagayan de Oro. It is a sacred spot and deserves to be protected," members and supporters of the Heritage Conservation Advocates, opposing the destruction of the Huluga Site, said in a manifesto two years ago.

Cecilio Salcedo, acting executive director of the National Museum, in his letter to the city government that year, said the Huluga area, as well as several sites along the west and east banks of the Cagayan de Oro River, "is within the archeological complex which should be protected and preserved, in accordance with Republic Act No. 4846 as amended."

For her part, tourism regional director Jean Pabayo asked the national government to intervene.

Despite these pleas and while preserving the two caves at the Huluga site with a 200-meter buffer zone, the area near the caves was cleared to give way to the construction of a road that would link with a newly built concrete bridge.

The city government, through the Cagayan de Oro Historical and Cultural Commission, said it could not do anything about the open site near the caves, since the "areas are all titled properties belonging to different individuals."

Huluga, located in Barangays Taguanao and Indahag, was scientifically studied and excavated by field researchers of the National Museum and the Xavier University Museum in 1970 and 1971, yielding several artifacts of great historical and anthropological significance, like human skeletons, stone tools of Neolithic industry, Iron Age earthenware in varied forms and designs, and trade ware ceramics that date back to the Sung and Ming dynasties.

Human skeletal remains taken from one of the caves were sent to the Scripps Institute in La Jolla, California for a recent form of dating technique known as acid racemization. The process revealed that the artifacts date back to 1600 years B.C., the late Neolithic period, the oldest chronological age ever established in Mindanao.

Historical scholars have pointed to the Huluga Site as the early settlement of the present-day Cagayan de Oro.

As part of the team who scientifically studied the Huluga Site in 1971, the late Fr. Francisco Demetrio, S.J., in a document titled "The Huluga Caves and the Prehistory of Cagayan de Oro," wrote:

"It seems even before the coming of the Chinese wares, that is, before the 17th century A.D., people had been burying their dead in Huluga Caves. We know, too, that the Huluga Open site contains evidence of continued human existence from the late Neolithic until the Sung and Ming dynasties."

In summarizing the chronicles of the Augustinian Recollect missionaries, Dr. Francis Madigan, S.J. of the Research Institute of Mindanao Culture of Xavier University in 1963, in his document "The Early History of Cagayan de Oro," said the Himologan/Huluga culture was already an organized ethnic society when it was discovered by Fray Juan de San Nicolas and Fray Francisco de la Madre de Dios in 1622.

ANTHROPOLOGIST Dr. Erlinda Burton and her students collect artifacts from the Huluga site. GRACE C. ALBASIN

Christianity animated in ancient Butuan enclave

By Franklin A. Caliguid
Masao, Butuan City

It was past six on that particular Sunday morning that the nearby chapel's bell resonated all over this neighborhood overlooking the historic Butuan Bay.

"Another great day to thank and praise the Lord," Salvacion Dominguez, 71, declared, as she rushed to attend the mass.

Arriving a bit late, Dominguez was obviously sorry.

Since her childhood days, Dominguez has been religiously attending mass like the rest of the village.

Wearing the best clothes they have, mothers clutch their children and hurry to the bayside chapel.

And like the Christians of the olden times, the people of this village never forget to bring offers to please God.

Christianity is deeply rooted in this ancient settlement, which, historians believe, was the place where Ferdinand Magellan set foot on March 29, 1521.

Greg Hontiveros, a local historian claimed that the vicinity of Masao or Mazau was where the first eastern mass in the Philippines was celebrated.

The historic mass, Hontiveros claimed, ushered in the spread of Christianity.

In fact, he said it was a Mazaua chieftain named Rajah Ayo, who helped distend the religion, after he led Magellan to Cebu to meet his relatives, the royal family of Rajah Humabon.

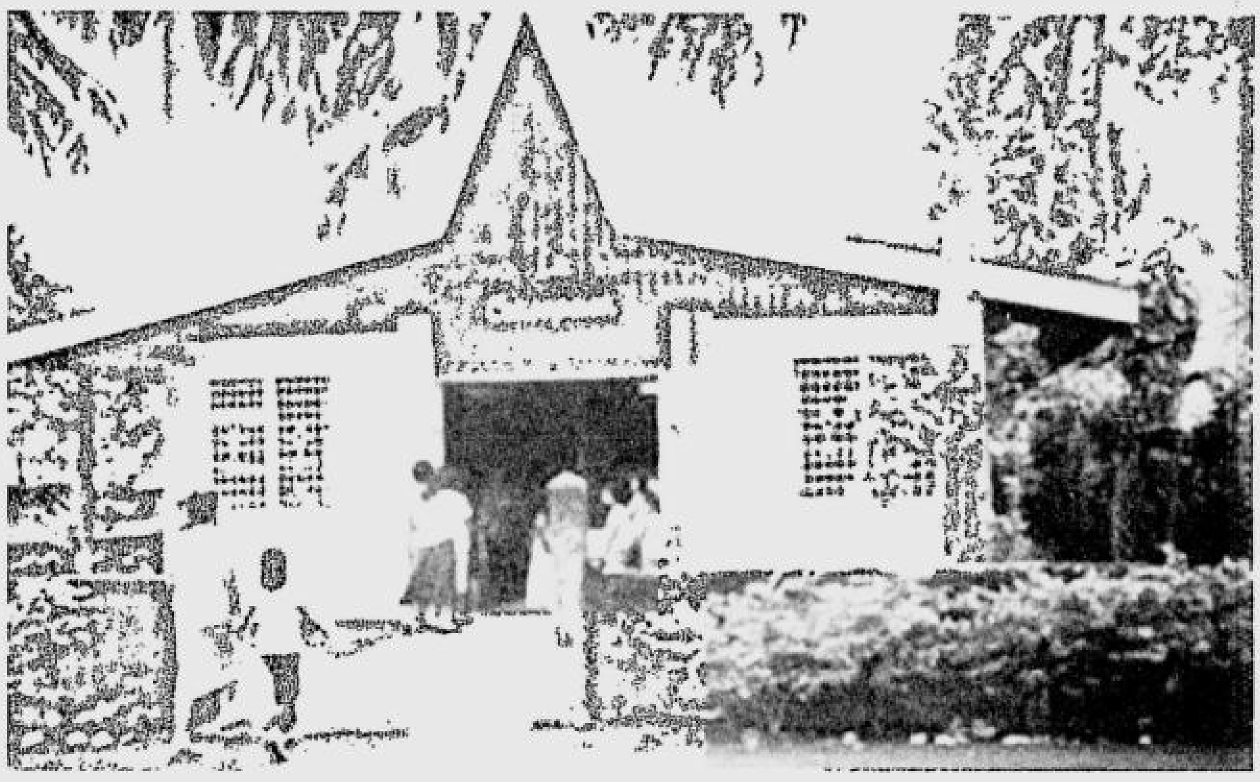
Armed with the Bible and the holy cross, Magellan and his men initiated the conversion of Humabon and his wife into Christianity.

"Masao has long attracted the attention of conquistadores at the time because of its rich and flourishing trade and commerce," Hontiveros said.

As early as the 10th century, people from Butuan had already established trading relations with the Kingdom of Champa (South Vietnam).

Artifacts and findings discovered in Masao date back to 320 A.D.

The most priced discoveries, to date, were the nine balangays (Butuan boats) or ancient boats and ancient Chinese ceramics, burial coffins and religious and liturgical arts.



THE CHRISTIAN faithful of Masao regularly flock to this chapel to attend mass. FRANKLIN CALIGUID

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Mindanao, most seismically active region in RP

Among the three groups of islands in the country, Mindanao is the most seismically active.

This means Mindanao experiences more earthquakes at an average of two to three occurrences per day. Desiderio Cabanlit of the Philippine Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) said Mindanao has more formation of trenches and fault lines, hence, more seismically active.

The Philippine fault zone is found on the eastern portion of Mindanao, from Surigao, Butuan, Agusan del Sur and Agusan del Norte and Davao Oriental. This zone starts at the Lingayen Gulf and stretches out to Mati, Davao Oriental, measuring 1,200 km in length.

Cabanlit added that, from the main Surigao segment, several faults have branched out. These are the Lianga Fault, Eastern Mindanao Fault and Mati Fault, which are the fault lines that generate earthquakes. He said some of the tremors are felt, while some are not.

Davao City, in particular, has experienced strong quakes in the past with a magnitude of seven. From 1897 to 1948, Phivolcs has found in its catalog 14 strong earthquakes that rocked the city.

Cabanlit said it is still possible that stronger quakes would hit the city, and that people should go extra mile to respond to disasters.

"We should focus more on preparation. Wrong information and knowledge would lead to wrong reaction," he added.

According to Cabanlit, being seismically active has also hindered Mindanao's development. It is only in recent times that tall buildings were constructed here. But he said engineers have been consulting Phivolcs about building designs. *PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Ehem: A manual on anti-corruption work

By Dennis Jay C. Santos
Davao City

A GROUP of academics recently launched a manual, introducing an anti-corruption program, that will soon find its way in both government and private offices.

The manual, appropriately titled "Ehem," is published by the Philippine Province of the Society of Jesus, with professors from Ateneo Universities in Davao and Zamboanga and from Xavier University in Cagayan de Oro City as authors.

"Ehem," derived from an expression used to catch the attention of a person, aims to, what else, catch the attention of persons doing corrupt and illegal practices in offices, especially in government. It contains lecture and workshop modules, Biblical and Koranic passages in anti-corruption, the Philippine anti-corruption laws and policies, a dictionary of terms and concept of corruption, songs, poems and even cartoon illustrations.

Fr. Albert Alejo, one of the authors, said the manual was conceptualized during a discussion with various groups.

"We talked about culture and we asked ourselves what is wrong with our culture," he said. "Maybe we should focus on one aspect which is predominant in our culture. I suggested corruption."

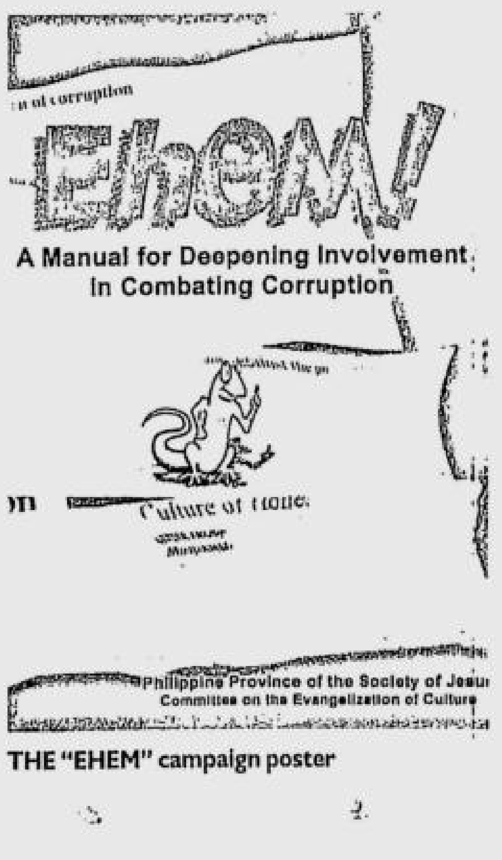
One thing led to another, until Alejo and his group suggested sponsoring a research on the perception of corruption in government offices.

But the group did not content themselves with coming out with a research work, until they went to the next level of publishing a manual, aimed at providing awareness on the subject of corruption.

Alejo said the "Ehem" manual is co-authored by Ronnie Amorado, Marivic Cabanes-Montano, Myrna Aboniawan-Siose and Arnel Galgo.

As part of the moral recovery program of the government, Presidential Assistant for Mindanao Jesus Dureza issued Memorandum Circular 001 to all regional heads, local government officials and heads of government-owned and controlled corporations, calling for the incorporation of the "Ehem" manual into their program.

FOR INQUIRIES, contact the Research and Publication Office of the Ateneo De Davao University at (082) 2212411.


Ehem!
A Manual for Deepening Involvement In Combating Corruption
Philippine Province of the Society of Jesus
Committee on the Evangelization of Culture

THE "EHEM" campaign poster

NDF-Mindanao says NPA to hunt down drug lords

DAVAO CITY—The National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) in Mindanao yesterday said New People's Army rebels would hunt down drug lords on the island so they could be prosecuted under a "people's court."

George Madlos alias Ka Oris, NDFP-Mindanao spokesperson, said among those being tightly watched were a mayor in Misamis Occidental and in Cotabato, a Pagadian City trader, a Filipino-Chinese trader in Butuan City, a gambling lord in Digos City in Davao del Sur and a Moro trader in General Santos City.

Ka Oris said if found guilty, revolutionary justice, which he described as harsh, would be applied on the suspects.

He cited as example the case of Mayor Lope Asis of Bayugan, Agusan del Sur, who was executed by communist guerrillas last year "for being a drug lord."

"In due time, they will have their day in the people's court," Ka Oris said of the plans against the suspected drug lords.

The NDF's statement came in the wake of recent killings in Mindanao, particularly in this city, for which shadowy vigilante groups were blamed.

Human rights advocates and the Catholic Church had denounced the killings, saying it would not guarantee an end to the drug problem.

The other day, Archbishop Fernando Capalla, newly elected president of the influential Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP), said the summary execution of suspected felons was a crooked way to end the drug menace.

Capalla said suspected criminals should be prosecuted and not executed.

In a press statement, Ka Oris also accused the military and some politicians of protecting the drugs trade.

He said the communist movement does not tolerate drugs.

Ka Oris also said military personnel were even encouraging some people in the hinterlands of Davao Oriental, Agusan del Sur, Davao del Sur and other places in Mindanao to plant marijuana.

"The allegation by Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and the military that the NPA has connections with illegal drugs is nothing but a ploy to divert attention from the regime's failure to solve the problem, as well as to protect the drug lords by shifting the blame to the revolutionary movement," Ka Oris said. *PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Countdown for Justice

WAPILE

IT IS exactly 426 days today since Pagadian journalist Edgar Damalerio was slain in cold blood. The principal suspect, police officer Guillermo Wapile, remains at large after escaping while in the custody of the police.

NCCP leaders appeal to GMA: Drop terrorist tag on communists, Joma

LUCENA CITY—The National Council of Churches in the Philippines has called on President Macapagal-Arroyo and the European Court of Justice to remove the terrorist tag placed on self-exiled communist founder Jose Maria Sison and to de-list the Communist Party of the Philippines and its military wing, the New People's Army, as a "foreign terrorist organization."

In a July 4 letter addressed to the President and the ECJ, Sharon Rose Joy Ruiz-Duremdez, NCCP secretary general, pointed out that by removing the terrorist tag, "then and only then can the peace talks proceed."

The NCCP's executive committee, passed its "position expressing dismay over the action of the Council of the European Union, which echoes the perspective of the United States vis-a-vis (sic) terrorists," Ruiz-Duremdez said.

"By welcoming this action, grave doubts are cast on the sincerity of the Philippine government in pursuing the peace talks," she said.

The NCCP is a fellowship of 10 mainline Protestant and non-Roman Catholic churches and 10 service-oriented organizations with a following of at least 13 million persons.

Ruiz-Duremdez said that by tagging the CPP and the NPA as a "foreign terrorist organization" and Sison as a "terrorist," "the government has, in essence, already pronounced judgment on the NDFP—a condition that is inimical to the proper environment for negotiations."

The NCCP official argued that if peace and prosperity are top priority in the government's agenda, they expect the President and the ECJ to leave no stone unturned nor waste no time in ensuring that the conditions for just and lasting peace are laid down.

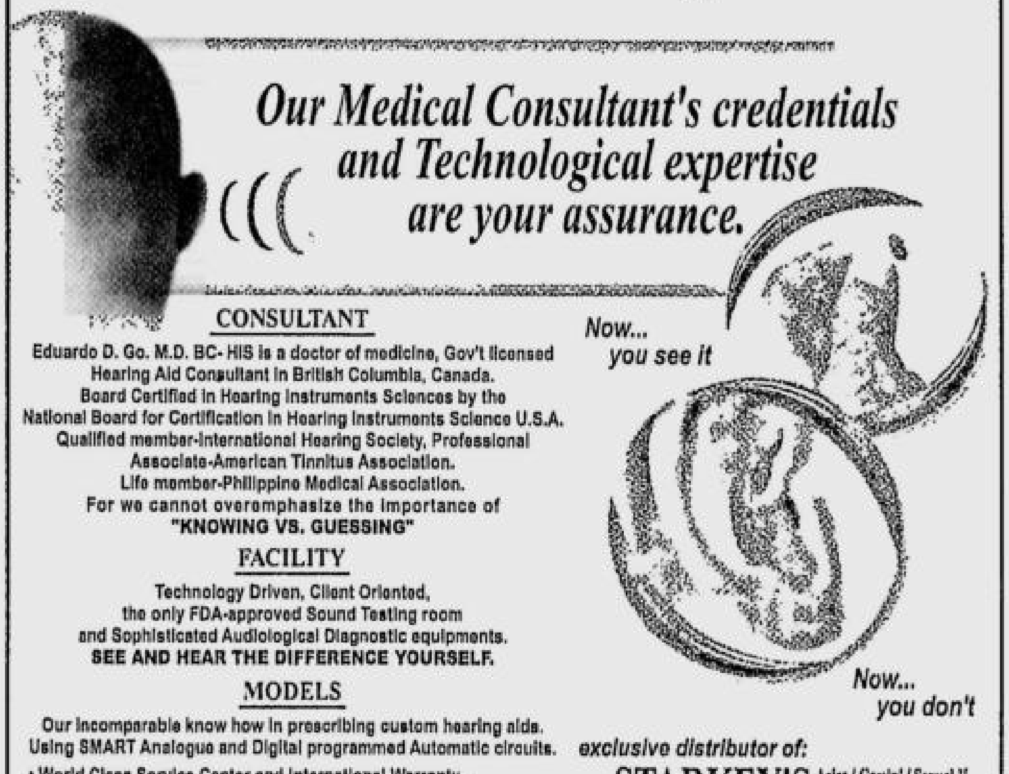
"The place to start is to (sic) take away the unfair 'terrorist' label of the CPP/NPA and Prof. Jose Maria Sison," she said.

Speaker Jose de Venecia said Thursday that he expected the peace agreements with the CPP to be completed before President Macapagal-Arroyo's term ends in June next year.

Earlier, Luis Jalandoni, NDF peace panel chair, listed four demands before the start of any formal peace talks with the Philippine government:

- The reaffirmation of The Hague Joint Declaration and the other nine agreements as the framework, foundation and guide of the GRP-NDFP peace negotiations, as jointly declared in April 2001 in Oslo;
- The repudiation and condemnation of the terrorist listing of the CPP and its armed wing, the NPA, and the NDFP chief political consultant Prof. Jose Maria Sison by the US and other foreign governments as a flagrant violation of the mutually acceptable principle of national sovereignty and Philippine jurisdiction;
- The end of massive human rights violations perpetrated by the GRP's military, police and para-military forces; and
- The release of political prisoners, especially those whose release orders have been signed.

Jalandoni said, "For (the second, third and fourth demands), the NDFP position is that official and definite steps must be undertaken by the GRP to rectify and undo its involvement in the terror listing; the GRP should withdraw the murder charges against Prof. Sison, and start the process of stopping the massive human rights violations and start releasing the political prisoners." *Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*



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THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, July 13, 2003
15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Am 7:12-15

Amaziah then said to Amos, "Off with you, seer, go back to the land of Judah. Earn your bread there by prophesying. But never again prophesy at Bethel for it is a king's sanctuary and a national shrine."

Amos replied to Amaziah, "I am not a prophet or one of the fellow-prophets. I am a breeder of sheep and a dresser of sycamore trees. But Yahweh took me from shepherding the flock and said to me: Go, prophesy to my people Israel."

2nd Reading: Eph 1:3-10

Blessed be God, the Father of Christ Jesus our Lord, who in Christ has blessed us from heaven with every spiritual blessing.

God chose us in Christ before the creation of the world to be holy and without sin in his presence.

From eternity he destined us in love to be his sons and daughters through Christ Jesus, thus fulfilling his free and generous will.

This goal suited him: that his loving-kindness which he granted us in his Beloved might finally receive all glory and praise.

For in Christ we obtain freedom, sealed by his blood, and have the forgiveness of sins.

In this appears the greatness of his grace, which he lavished on us.

In all wisdom and understanding, God has made known to us his mysterious design, in accordance with his loving-kindness in Christ.

In him and under him God wanted to unite, when the fullness of time had come, everything in heaven and on earth.

By a decree of Him who disposes all things according to his own plan and decision we, the Jews, have been chosen and called and we were awaiting the Messiah, for the praise of his glory.

You, on hearing the word of truth, the Gospel that saves you, have believed in him.

And, as promised, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit, the first pledge of what we shall receive, on the way to our deliverance as a people of God, for the praise of his glory.

Gospel: Mk 6:7-13

Jesus called the Twelve to him and began to send them out two by two, giving them authority over evil spirits. And he ordered them to take nothing for the journey except a staff; no food, no bag, no money in their belts. They were to wear sandals and were not to take an extra tunic.

And he added, "In whatever house you are welcomed, stay there until you leave the place. If any place doesn't receive you and the people refuse to listen to you, leave after shaking the dust off your feet. It will be a testimony against them."

So they set out to proclaim that this was the time to repent. They drove out many demons and healed many sick people by anointing them.

Commentary

Those who truly say and do what Jesus said and did, true representatives of his, possess only what is necessary to accomplish their mission. Since the Apostles were traveling preachers, they only needed a walking stick and a pair of sandals! For the rest, they were to depend on people's hospitality, trusting always in God's care. How to live this instruction of Jesus is a question to be asked and answered not only by ordained ministers and persons with religious vows. It must be reflected upon by every Christian. After all, baptism makes us all missionaries. Without imperiling the duties our status in life, each one must make a sincere decision about possessions. They can advance or hamper our Christian life and mission.

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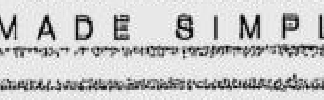

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Military burial for Army captain still stalled

ANGELES

By Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

DAGUPAN CITY—The mother of slain Army Capt. Peter James Angeles asked the court on Friday to order the immediate burial of her son after negotiations between her and Angeles' wife resulted in a stalemate.

Claudine Marie Peleo-Angeles, Angeles' wife, earlier acceded to the proposal of military officials that Angeles' body be taken to the Libingan ng mga Bayani but insisted that the body be cremated.

The soldier's mother Josie Angeles and her relatives, however, opposed the planned cremation.

Angeles, a member of the Philippine Military Academy Class 2000, was one of the 13 soldiers killed in an ambush by New People's Army rebels in Compostela Valley on June 30.

Josie, through her lawyer Napoleon Arenas, also asked the court to order Col. Johnny Corcha of the Army's 7th Infantry Division to escort Angeles' remains to their hometown where, she said, a wake could be held pending the resolution of the case.

The petition was filed at the regional trial court in San Carlos City on Friday.

Angeles body, in a sealed coffin, was brought to the Eternal Gardens crematorium in Dagupan on Tuesday, eight days after he was killed. But since Tuesday, the coffin had been placed inside a hearse, pending the resolution of the conflict.

Josie said Angeles should be buried "in accordance with his religious beliefs (Roman Catholic), preferably in his hometown Bautista, where he was born and where he spent most of his life."

His body would have been taken to the Libingan ng mga Bayani on Wednesday night and buried there but military officials could not assure Josie that Angeles would be buried immediately and that there would be no more negotiations on the fate of his remains.

"The military officers cannot give me a categorical answer on what they would do to the body, so I refused to let it go," Josie said.

Claudine reportedly told her mother-in-law that it was Angeles' request that his body be cremated should he die.

Claudine and Josie, together with their relatives and some of Angeles' PMA classmates, met in a restaurant in La Union on Thursday morning to settle the issue. Both parties, however, refused to reconsider their decisions.

Crying, pleading

Claudine, her mother Anita Peleo and her brother Amador then proceeded to the Eternal Gardens Memorial Park in Dagupan but did not talk to Angeles' relatives. The relatives were crying and pleading with Angeles' widow to allow them to bury him.

Josie lamented that her daughter-in-law never consulted her on the funeral rites for her only child.

"When they told me that they wanted my son's body cremated, I opposed it. But there was nothing I could do except to plead with them," she said.

She acknowledged that Claudine has the right to her husband's body.

"But I still hope she will listen to a mother's plea. He was my only son and I'm already a widow. All I wanted for him is to be buried, not cremated. They can bury him anywhere, but please don't burn his body because he had suffered enough from the bullets that killed him," Josie said.

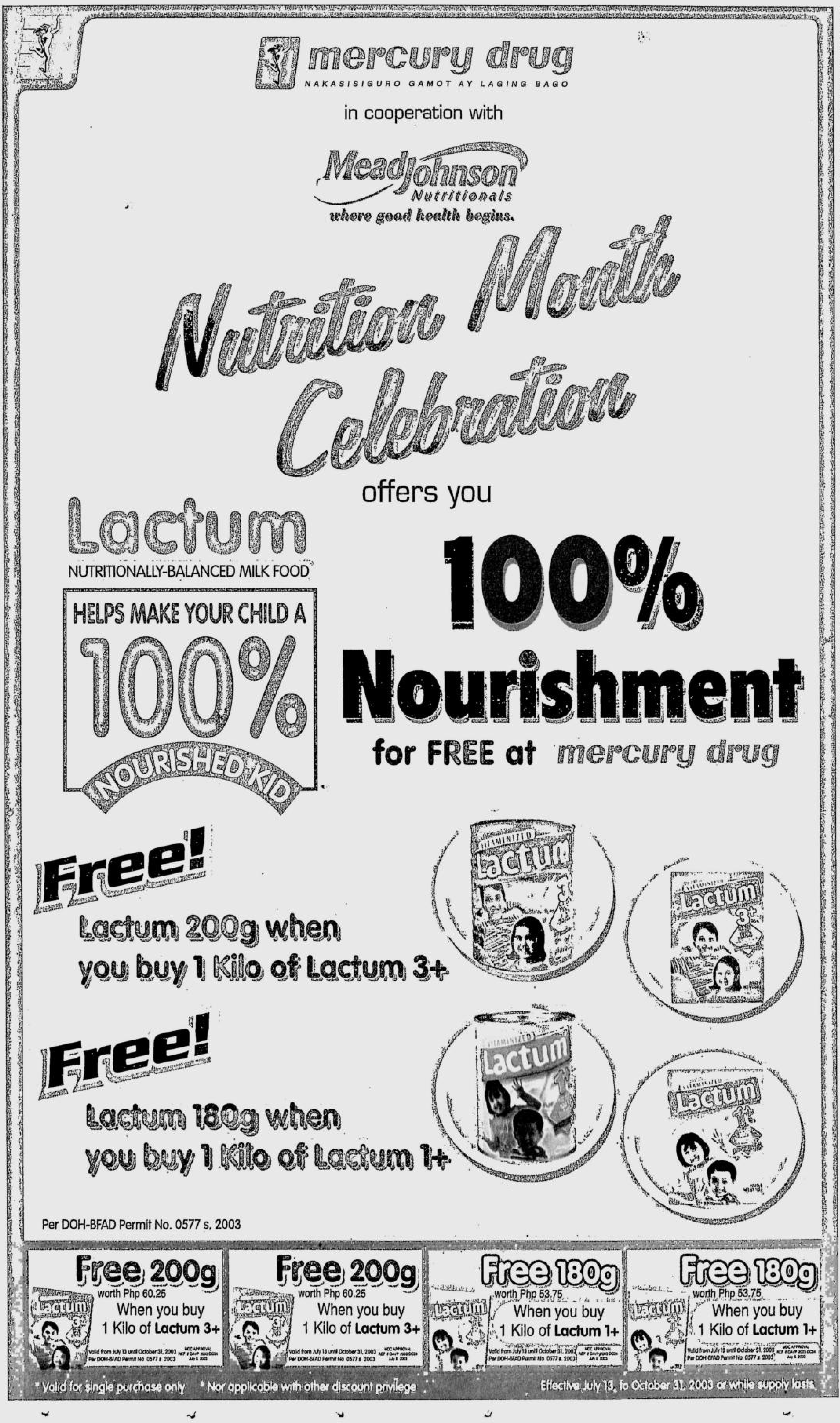
No will

Arenas said the disagreement could not be easily resolved because Angeles died without leaving a will.

He said Article 307 of the New Civil Code of the Philippines states: "The funeral shall be in accordance with the expressed wishes of the deceased. In the absence of such expression, his religious beliefs or affiliation shall determine the funeral rites."

"(Angeles) was baptized and raised as a Catholic Christian . . . He was a Catholic and died a Catholic without renouncing his faith," he said.

Arenas added that Claudine, on the other hand, "is a Born Again Christian and her religious affiliation seemed to allow the cremation of the remains of their loved ones which, to our mind, is contrary to the faith embraced by (Angeles) throughout his life."



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Supermom of 17 going strong at 71

From page A1

three more.

When she was finally done multiplying, she had 17 children—all born by normal delivery and everyone still alive to this day. And by the time the youngest child was born, the eldest, Douglas, was late into his twenties, she was in her 40s and her husband was a septuagenarian.

By today's reproductive health standards and family planning aspirations, Avelina, while giving birth within the reproductive age of 15 to 49 as set by the World Health Organization, went past the high risk limit of 36 years old.

She has 14 more children than the desired number of today's Filipino mothers and three times more than the current fertility rate of 4.

She defied the basic circumstance that defined the need for family planning: "Too young, too soon, too old, too many, too sick."

Did she ever think of family planning?

"Eventually, I heard about it, but my husband didn't like the idea. He told me that whatever God gave us, we should accept," she said.

Did she ever fear about her own health giving birth too soon and to too many when she was too young and later too old to do so?

Avelina said she was also surprised at her own strength. It was probably because she ate simply. But then, she wondered: "How did I do that?"

How she was able to raise her children and live a healthy life to this day at 71 is a feat that made her the best choice in this year's Mother's Day search at Rustan's.

Avelina,or Lola Vi to her 33 grandchildren, was a high school freshman in a remote barangay in Rosales, Pangasinan, in 1949 when she was invited to be the Reyna Elena in the town's Santacruzan.

That was when she caught the attention of a transient businessman 27 years her senior, Agustin Castaneda, of Tarlac.

Avelina could not remember why or how—she was very young then—but soon after she agreed to marry Agustin.

"I was very young then. He came to our house with a priest and we got married," she said.

Her early years as wife to Agustin were not wanting, as he owned the biggest grocery store in the area. Her first child came in 1951 and she was giving birth almost every year since then until 1962.

"I gave birth at home. The doctor just came to our house," she said. Within a few days after each birth, she was up and about tending to the grocery. She said she didn't have a hard time since she always had helpers.

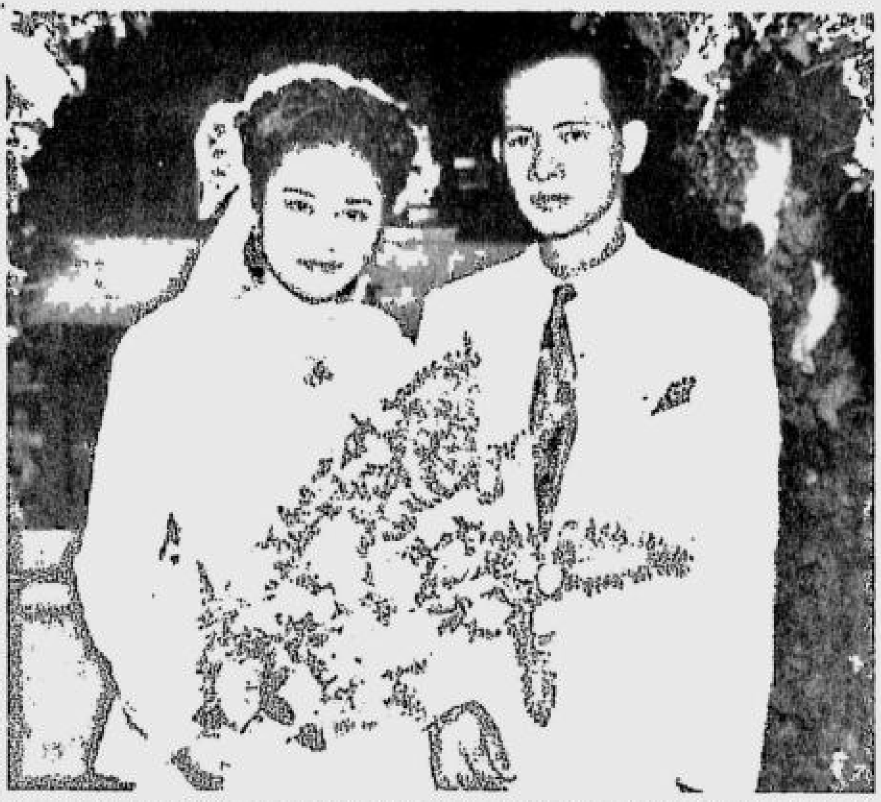
Devastating experience

The grocery sold everything so that took care of their daily needs. That's why the years went by without her noticing it.

It was after their 10th child when things turned around for the Castanedas. The town's public market was burned and their grocery store and everything they owned went up in smoke.

Avelina said it was a devastating experience for them. For her husband, it was worse. He went into a depression, which was compounded by his very independent nature. He would not accept any help from friends and relatives, she said.

Undaunted, she pulled herself together and tried to make the most of the situation. Realizing they could not go on the way they used to in their business, the couple decided to move to Tarlac.



WEDDING day of Mr. and Mrs. Agustin Castaneda: The groom was 27 years older than his bride.

TODAY, Avelina is a woman fulfilled, grandmother to 33, and is happiest when all her children and their families get together.

By then, they already had 14 children. The older children made things a bit easier when they started to take on jobs.

In Tarlac, Avelina became more enterprising. As she visited a daughter who went to school in Dagupan City, she would buy fresh fish and sell them in Tarlac. She would also bring goods like *tocino* and *longganisa* to Dagupan and sell them there.

She said she did this for 10 years to sustain the family. Her husband died in 1988 at 83. She was 56.

Even as some of her children have yet to finish college, Avelina considers herself successful as she was able to raise all 17 children.

"What is important is that they're all alive," she said.

She was 20 when she gave birth to her eldest, Douglas, who is 51 now. The youngest, Christopher, now 27, was born when she was 46.

In between, came Anabelle, now 50; Ramon, 49; Carlo; 48; Fatima, 47; Dante, 46; Raul, 45; Cecil, 44; Adonis, 43; Jack, 42; Ferdie, 41; Roldan, 40; Liberty, 37; August, 36; Samson, 32, and Diwata, 29.

Today, Avelina is retired. She takes care of her grandchildren.

"Wherever there's a new baby born, that's where she goes," said son Samson.

Avelina said she is most happy during her birthday and every Christmas when all her children are together. She said all she wants now is good and healthy lives for her children and their families.

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

PILOT project in San Jose, Batangas of the Family Science Educational Program prods kids early on to consider careers in science, math and engineering.

This rat's . . .

From page A1

crats, bureaucrats, aristocrats and plutocrats, but this particular rat had not paid the appropriate fare," Qantas told one newspaper.

The jet-setting crafty creature avoided poisoned bait and traps set by rat-catchers before it finally succumbed to clouds of carbon dioxide used by the national flag carrier as a last resort.

"Ultimately it was in a deceased state," said a Qantas spokesperson on Friday. "It's difficult to confirm where the rat might have come from."

Besides frightening unsuspecting passengers, fears the rat could have chewed through wiring forced Qantas to ground the plane three times to hunt it down.

The rat was not the first Australian animal to become a frequent flyer. A six-year-old boy survived after being bitten by a deadly taipan snake in 1998 when he reached under his seat for a dropped lollipop on a flight with now-defunct Ansett.

Reuters

BALINESE ROOF SHAKES
(Do you want an Asian design for your house?)

More homebuiders are now turning their eyes on designs that capture the natural beauty of the shores, hills and forests of Southeast Asia.

Some call this design Balinese, others Tropical Asian.

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Simply Creative

Batangas kids learn science program the Berkeley way

From page A1

this school are getting a crack at honing their skills in science, and are learning things the way it is done at the University of California (UC) at Berkeley.

Through a unique hands-on curriculum developed by UC Berkeley's prestigious Lawrence Hall of Science (LHS), they are learning the basics of science and how it connects to their daily lives.

The pupils and parents of Padre Imo Luna are the first outside the United States and Mexico to use the curriculum called Family Science Educational Program.

The LHS, a resource center for children, parents, educators and policymakers, seeks to improve the understanding and enjoyment of science and mathematics. It develops model programs for teaching and learning the two subjects and disseminate these throughout the world.

Around 3,000 Filipino students will be using the curriculum this school year, including those from the San Antonio Elementary School and San Pascual Central Elementary School, which are neighboring schools of Padre Imo Luna .

Through the spohsorship of Chevron Texaco and its subsidiary, Caltex Philippines Inc., two volunteers from the LHS came to the Philippines to teach Padre Imo Luna's teachers how to make simple devices and use them to spark the interest of pupils and parents in science.

"For example, a drop of water can be used in place of a lens. Water can be a great magnifier because it can spread light—just like a lens—creating a larger image of an object. Things like this should be demonstrated so that a child will not only memorize concepts but also be able to explain what has just happened," said LHS volunteer Kimi Hosoume.

Solving, questioning

According to LHS director Elizabeth Stage, the Family Science Educational Program develops problem solving, questioning and communication skills.

"It also reinforces the positive impact of science by highlighting discoveries from cultures around the world," she said. "The long-term goal of the program is to encourage children to consider careers in science, math and engineering."

For example, Hosoume said, students can learn about geography and geology by comparing sand samples from different areas and then locating and marking the source of the sand on a map.

Teachers also 'learn basic and exciting hands-on science experiments to add to their classroom curriculum, and parents can learn simple experiments that can be conducted at home to supplement their children's formal school education.

"This can boost their confidence in helping their children learn about science," said LHS volunteer Karen Ostlund.

Becky A. Alivio, general manager of Caltex's refinery in San Pascual, Batangas, said the Family Science Educational Program is one of the oil company's local community partnership programs that help educate and inspire children.

"ChevronTexaco is proud to provide participants with tools that allow them to succeed in life," she said.

Tim Leveille, country chair of Caltex Philippines, said his company was pleased to have found "yet another positive way to further build upon our long-standing relationship with the communities of Batangas."

"In choosing Batangas (as the Philippine pilot) of the Family Science Educational Program, ChevronTexaco has recognized the importance of this relationship and the tremendous pride associated with educational achievement and what it means to all Filipinos, particularly to those who may come from underprivileged groups," Leveille said.

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DOT: Days of abusive cabbies numbered

By Jerome Aning and Abigail L. Ho

THE DAYS of abusive Metro Manila taxicab drivers are numbered, according to Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon.

Gordon led other government officials in launching the other day a new color-coded number scheme on taxis plying Metro Manila routes.

The scheme, called the Worry-Free on Wheels project, requires all taxicabs in Metro Manila to sport big body numbers for easy identification.

The colored body numbers would be painted on the front, sides, back and even inside the cabs.

The assigned body numbers, in turn, will be painted over different color backgrounds that correspond to specific places representing the location of the cab's garage.

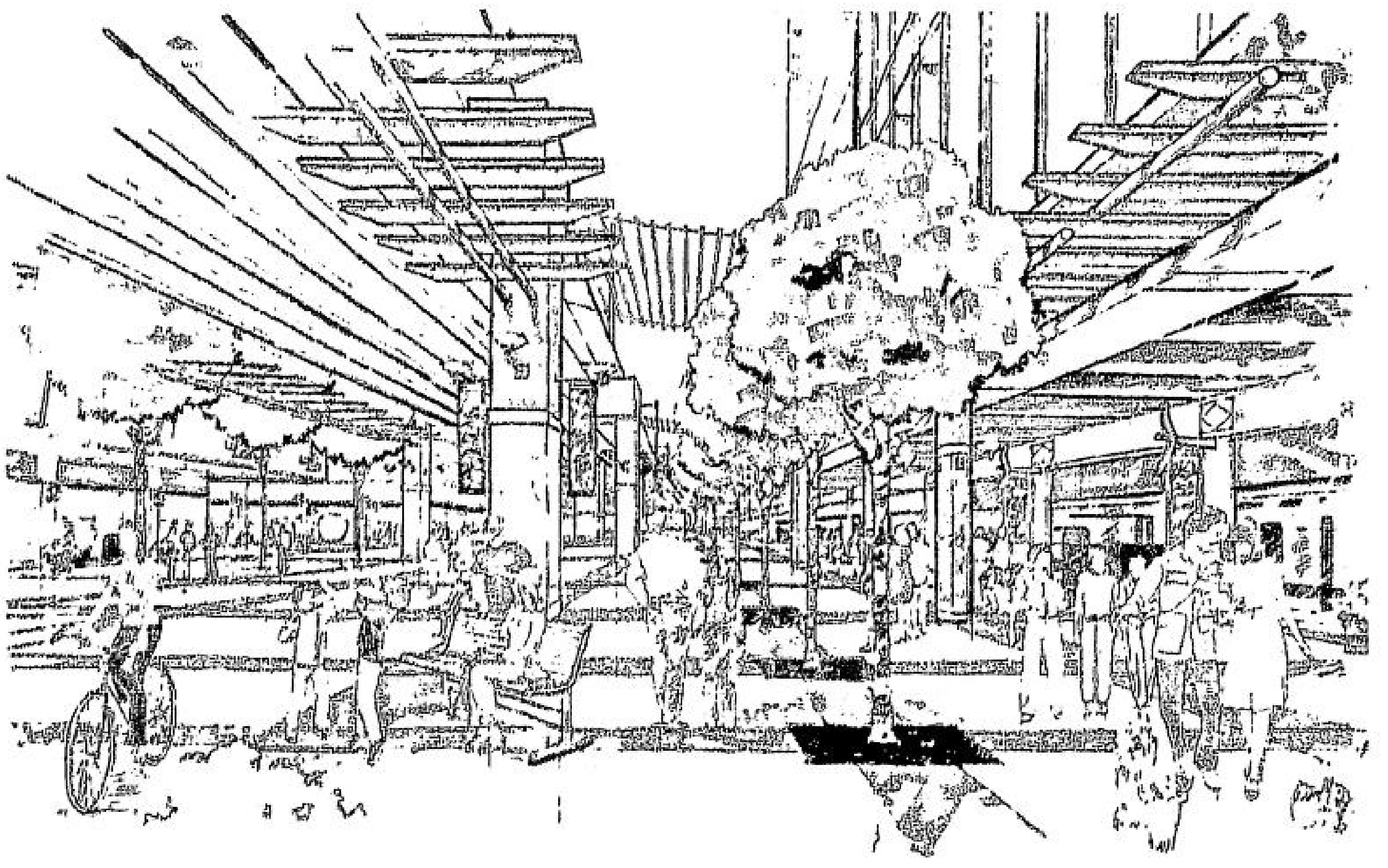
Taxis that are kept in Manila when not on the road, for example, will have green as the background for their body numbers.

Gordon said the scheme would enable the public to report choosy and abusive taxi drivers and cab-related crimes to the police.

The secretary said all other body markings on a cab would have to go so that a passenger needs only to take note of the body number and color background of taxis when reporting them to authorities.

"Definitely, this will help protect the general public as well as

DOT/A21



ARTIST'S sketch of what Avenida Rizal is envisioned to look like after the "pedestrianization" project is completed

A wait-and-see game on Avenida

By Margaux Ortiz

"WE ARE taking a wait-and-see attitude on this project."

Businessmen along Rizal Avenue were referring to Manila Mayor Joselito Atienza Jr.'s latest "pedestrianization" project which seeks to transform Avenida into a bustling shopping district.

Robinson Uy, who sells furnaces, heaters and other industrial products in a family-owned building along the avenue, said that although a lot of businessmen are enthusiastic about the ongoing project, some also have their apprehensions.

Uy said that he is fortunate his business has not been badly affected by the road construction and re-routing of vehicles.

Uy sells industrial materials. He said that because of this, his customers do not need to stop by his shop and personally buy the goods.

"But for my other colleagues here who sell food or clothes and shoes, it is an entirely different story," Uy said.

Uy said that many of the other entrepreneurs have been complaining because patrons who used to regularly buy from them fail to do so anymore because of the ongoing road construction and re-routing.

The entrepreneurs also said that they are worried about where their delivery trucks could pass once the "pedestrianization" of the avenue takes effect.

"Again, I am fortunate because I have a back street where my delivery truck can park," Uy said. "But my other colleagues say that they don't have that luxury."

An owner of a retail store which sells shoes, clothes and appliances said she is also worried about future emergencies like fires.

She said the side streets are too small to accommodate fire trucks once the roads will finally be closed to vehicles.

She also said that customers who were used to riding vehicles and getting off in front of the stores do not enjoy the same convenience anymore.

"Many of our customers don't want to walk too far," the store owner lamented, adding that their patrons also have problems loading the goods they purchase into their vehicles.

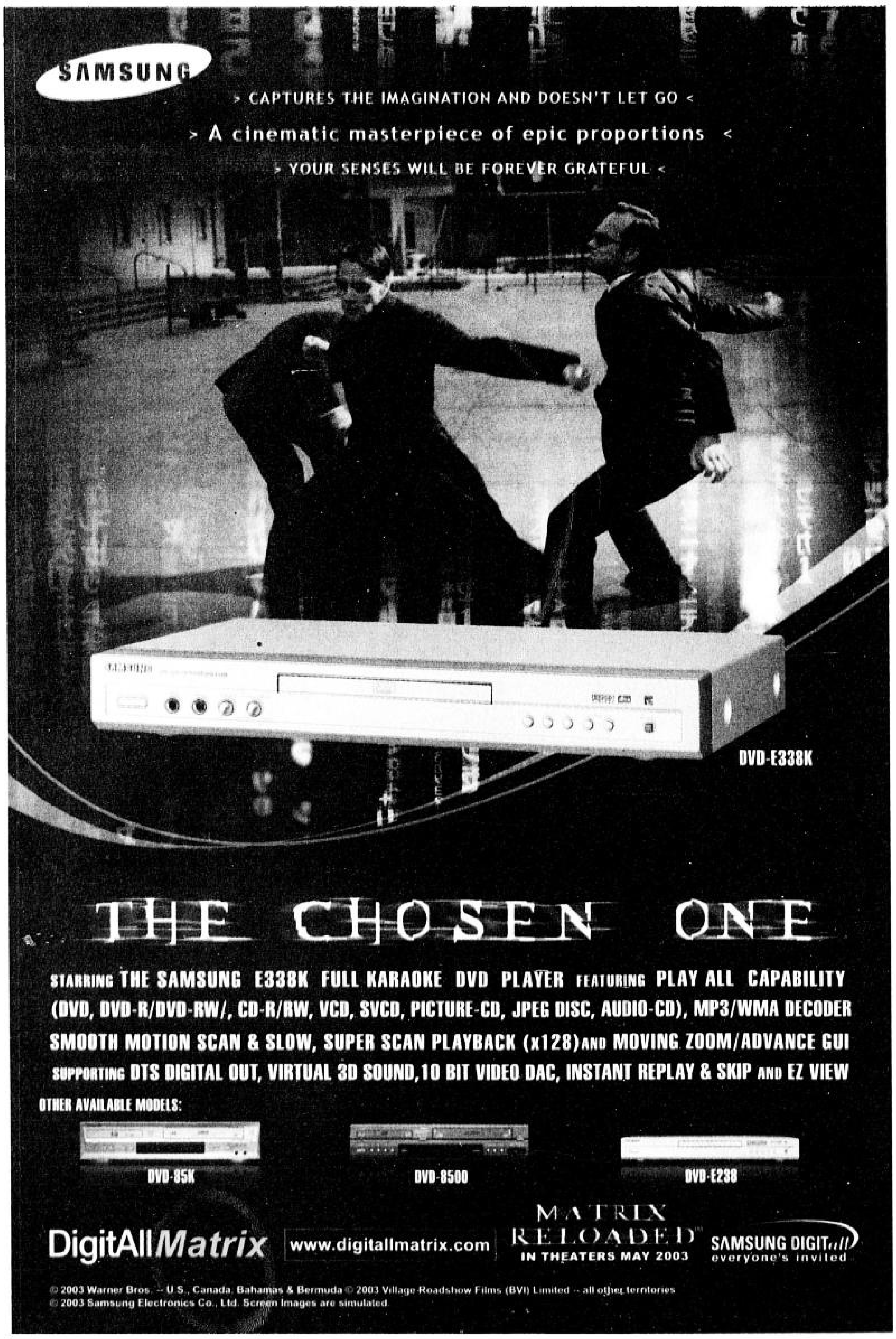
Mariano Ting, owner of the Goodwear store which sells shoes, confirmed that business has indeed been "terribly affected."

Ting said that the Avenida businessmen and the mayor are presently working out a schedule to enable their delivery trucks to enter the avenue.

"We are sure the mayor has noble intentions, but for now we have yet to see the benefits that 'pedestrianization' will bring to our business," Ting said.

Uy agreed, saying that they trust the mayor to "bring Avenida back to life."

"We're making sacrifices now, but Mayor Atienza has assured us that we have nothing to lose and everything to gain when all this is finished," Uy said. "We hope he is right."



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Flood control project to spawn more jobs

By Tina Santos

THE CONSTRUCTION of the Camanava Flood Control and Drainage System Improvement Project will lead to more jobs for residents of Malabon and Navotas.

Malabon-Navotas Rep. Ricky Sandoval said yesterday at least 1,000 jobs, mostly in the fields of security and construction, await the residents of his district when the flood-control project starts.

"There would be a lot of construction activities once the project begins. And they (the residents) will be our priority for the jobs," he said.

Several businesses, particularly from the construction industry and even small-time eateries, are also expected to benefit.

The project covers 18.48 sq. km. of flood-prone areas in Camanava and will cost about P5 billion.

Malabon City information officer Gerry Gonzales said the ordinance which directs businesses to give preference to skilled and non-skilled residents of the city will be strictly implemented.

"Definitely this ordinance will be pushed once the hiring (of workers) for the Camanava flood-control project starts in order to protect the welfare of the city residents," Gonzales said.

Smoking ban won't drive away tourists, says Binay

By Edson Tandoc Jr.

SMOKING may be dangerous to health, but not to the tourism industry, as far as Makati City Mayor Jejomar Binay is concerned.

Binay yesterday bucked criticisms from some groups that the smoking ban in the country would adversely affect the tourism industry, especially in Makati City.

Two of these groups, the Network of Independent Travel Agencies and the National Association of Independent Travel Agencies, earlier claimed that the Anti-Smoking Law is "a boon to health but a bane to tourism."

But Binay remained unconvinced. He said in a statement that "the ill effects of smoking on health are much more real than the unfounded fears that it will drive tourists away."

President Macapagal-Arroyo signed into law the Tobacco Regulation Act last June 23.

Vigilantes eyed in grisly QC murders

By Alcuin Papa

THE BODY parts of a man and a woman found early yesterday morning in Quezon City had the telltale signs of a vigilante killing, according to police.

The Central Police District Criminal Investigation Unit yesterday reported that the dismembered bodies had been scattered in different parts of the city.

One investigator said that the killings could have been the handiwork of vigilantes who, in recent months, have been executing suspected drug dealers in the city.

The right thigh of a man with a "Bahala Na Gang" tatoo on it was found on 14th Street corner Victory Avenue, in Barangay Tatalon at around 7 a.m., said PO1 Marcelino Castillo, officer-on-case.

An hour later, a left thigh was found on Violeta Street, Roxas District.

A few minutes later, police reported the discovery of a pair of arms.

One arm was found on Roosevelt Avenue, while the other was at the corner of Camerino and Maesa Streets in Project 4, Castillo said.

At around 9 a.m., residents of Lupang Pangako, Barangay Payatas called the police to report the discovery of a woman's arm in the area.

All the body parts were found wrapped in black plastic garbage bags.

In the past few months, at least six bodies of suspected drug dealers have been strewn across Quezon City.

Cardboard signs containing a warning to drug dealers to stop their illicit trade were also found on the bodies of the victims, police said.

The placards were signed "Vigilantes Inc. QC chapter."

Although the body parts found yesterday did not have signs on them, the police still believed that vigilantes were responsible for the killings.

Last May, police also found body parts around the city on two occasions.

Police said the parts could have belonged to suspected drug dealers as well as petty thieves.

To dispel suspicions that the police were involved in the summary executions in the city, Central Police District director Chief Supt. Napoleon Castro has ordered an investigation of the killings.

A doctor on all fours brought cheers, tears to all

By Marlet Salazar

THIS doctor did not have a diploma or the license to cure the sick.

He didn't get to study in a distinguished medical school to back his expertise in helping sick people get well.

But he was the kind of doctor a child would never tire of seeing when he did his rounds in hospitals.

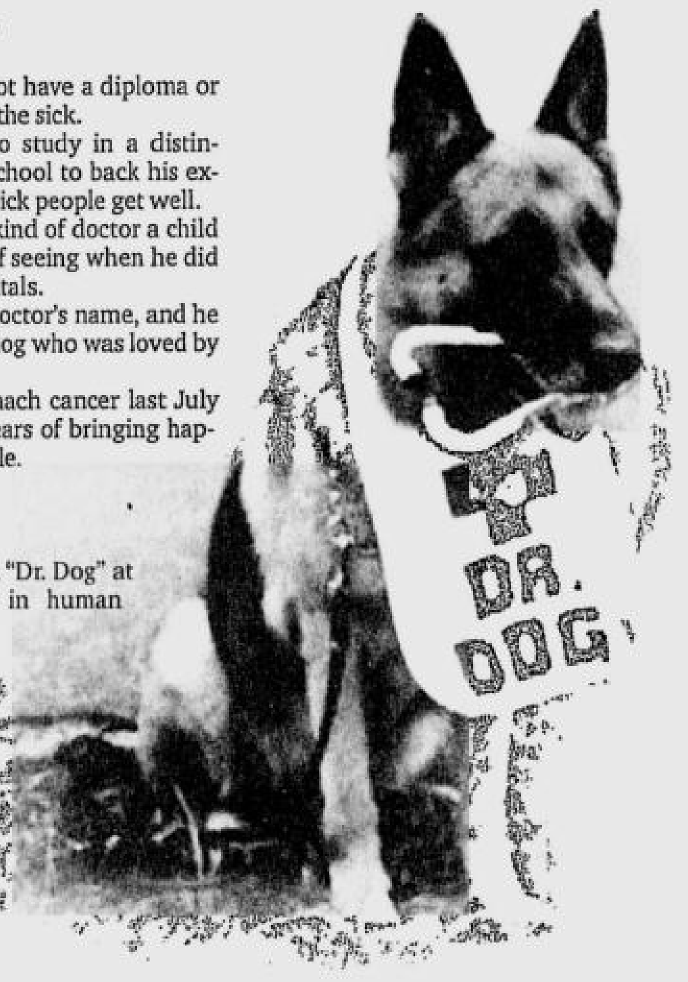
Pakko was the doctor's name, and he happened to be a dog who was loved by all.

He died of stomach cancer last July 8, ending many years of bringing happiness to sick people.

He was 13.

A doctor at 7

Pakko became a "Dr. Dog" at 7 years old—49 in human years.



PAKKO, the gentle giant, is remembered.

Soon after, Pakko was treating human beings to his brand of therapy.

Ana Cabrera, director of PAWS (Philippine Animal Welfare Society), mentioned the time when Pakko touched a 10-year-old girl at the Tahanang Walang Hagdan.

The girl had cerebral palsy and she could not move that much.

But when the girl saw Pakko, she mustered all her strength to reach out to the German Shepherd.

Cabrera fondly remembered the smile on the girl's face when she was able to reach Pakko, lay her hand on the dog's head and gently pat it.

That, in a nutshell, is what Dr. Dogs are expected to do. And Pakko was born for the job, Cabrera said.

Dr. Dog program

The Dr. Dog program is simply animal-assisted therapy developed by American Jill Robinson of the Animals Asia Foundation.

In 1991, Robinson came up with the idea of bringing dogs to hospitals, orphanages and schools for special children, as a way to show how animals can benefit humans.

She believes that the interaction between person and animal is healthy for both, and will foster respect for each other.

When Robinson came to the Philippines, she proposed setting up a Dr. Dog program to PAWS president Nita Lichauco.

The idea appealed to former PAWS volunteer Jojo Aquino, then Pakko's owner, who quickly signed his pet up for the program.

"A Dr. Dog must have a high tolerance level," Cabrera said.

And Pakko had more than what it takes to make the grade.

Pakko was a show dog and was a consistent top prize winner in obedience contests.

He didn't offer any resistance when he was provoked to react in certain situations like pulling his tail or ears.

Needless to say, Pakko passed the tests given to prospective therapy dogs with flying colors.

Gentle

Pakko was very gentle, according to his last human companion Yasmin Jadwani, who heads the animal welfare organization Cara (Compassion and Responsibility towards Animals).

Jadwani herself has rescued about 30 dogs and 50 cats and sheltered them at her home in Pasig City.

By his sheer size, the German Shepherd commanded an intimidating presence, but Pakko was never a bully, Jadwani said.

"I was assured that he looked after my children, instead of them looking after him," Jadwani said.

Pakko shared the job of caring for her children with a playful Dalmatian named Freckles.

Pakko would throw disapproving looks whenever Freckles became too prankish, Cabrera said.

Because Freckles drew more kids, Pakko remained in the sidelines doing his job quietly.

"He was the quiet listener," Cabrera said.

Pakko, almost on cue, would approach the shiest kid in the crowd and nudge him to play with him.

It was Pakko's eyes that did the trick, Jadwani said.

Stories abound of Pakko's heroics.

He worked quietly but very effectively. He never boasted of his status but remained the epitome of humility.

After Pakko died, everyone who knew the dog could not even finish a sentence without breaking into tears.

"Pakko was adored by all humans—kids and adults alike," Lichauco said. "He was a unique German Shepherd because he was everyone's dog."

Adoption

Jadwani's family adopted Pakko when he was 8 years old.

He weighed 55 pounds then, very light for a German Shepherd.

Jadwani and her husband nursed the physical and emotional pain the poor dog suffered, shortly after he was diagnosed with cancer two months ago.

Jadwani's veterinarian, Dr. Michael Velhagen, tried his best to save Pakko. He never entertained the idea of putting the dog to sleep.

But Jadwani didn't want to prolong the suffering of her beloved friend, whom she refused to call a dog, but a "great being."

She said it was Pakko himself who decided to go peacefully.

In times of discomfort—physical or emotional—Pakko never yelped or growled to express the pain.

But his eyes often betrayed him, Jadwani said.

Pakko tried to please Jadwani even during his last days.

"He would try to eat, only to throw up later," she said.

Jadwani only has respectful words for the German Shepherd.

"Pakko had a great deal of dignity," Jadwani said.

Although Pakko was very gentle, he was not really demonstrative about his feelings.

Jadwani's family noticed that Pakko was getting more and more attached to them.

"Maybe because he knew he was going away ... for good," she said.

Time to go

Jadwani said taking in a pet is just like having a child.

"There is no turning back when you make that commitment," she said.

But dogs are capable of loving their human companions unconditionally, she said.

When Jadwani knew Pakko would go any time, she made an effort to look for his former owner, Aquino.

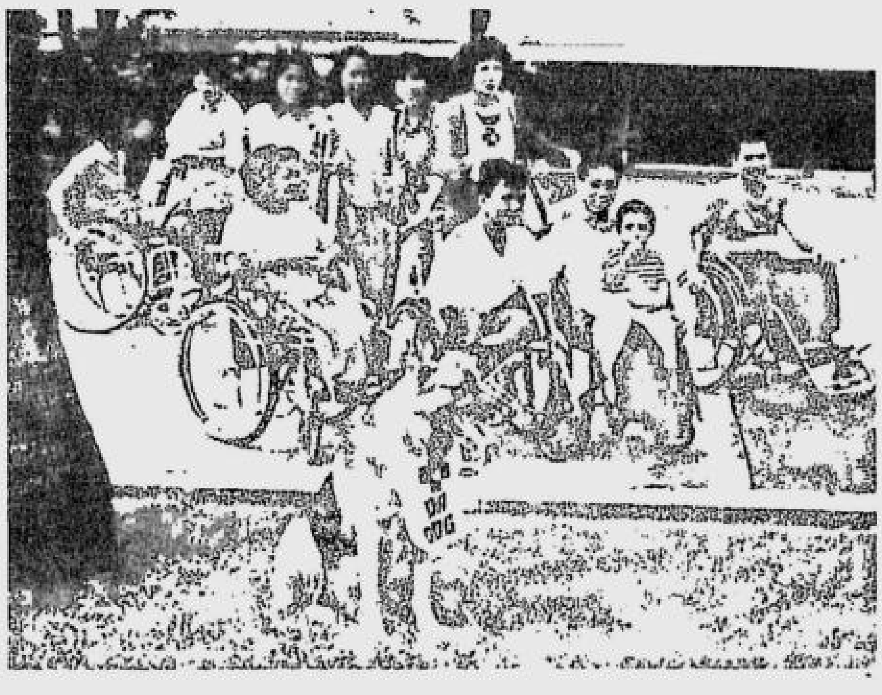
"Because even after all his years with the Jadwanis, Pakko evidently still longed for Jojo," Cabrera said.

"Pakko was beyond gentle," Jadwani said. "He was not intelligent, he was wise. He was not kind, but compassionate."

One night, Jadwani woke up in the middle of the night to re-hydrate Pakko. She found her friend was in great suffering and was ready to go.

Jadwani, Pakko's human companion for four years, was beside the gentle giant when he passed away.

All she could say to the German Shepherd was: "it's okay to go darling, it's okay to go."



THE DOCTOR Dog is shown here making a house call on patients of Tahanang Walang Hagdan.

No more cold, comfy nights for NBP inmates

By Edson Tandoc Jr.

TWO INMATES of the National Bilibid Prisons have given up the comforts of home when they surrendered their air-conditioning units to jail officials.

NBP director Francisco Abunales yesterday told the INQUIRER that inmates Henry Co and Peter Co, both Chinese, had voluntarily surrendered the air-conditioners which he claimed the two had been hiding from the authorities.

"They were afraid that we might find the air conditioners, so they just surrendered these to us," Abunales said.

He said that some inmates personally went to him on Friday and informed him of the Chinese inmates' intention of surrendering their air-conditioners.

The Bahala Na Gang group also voluntarily turned over two .38-caliber firearms on Friday afternoon, Abunales said.

He said the inmates have been cooperative and that the turnovers proved that the reforms they have been implementing in the penitentiary are working.

The penitentiary was recently rocked by a scandal after reports surfaced that a multimillion-peso shabu lab was operating inside.

But although Bureau of Corrections director Dionisio Santiago admitted that shabu peddling was rampant inside the penitentiary, he denied that there was a shabu lab in the premises.

Strict reforms at the penitentiary began when Santiago took over a month ago.

He even ordered the demolition of the "kubols," or dormitory-like rooms, of high-profile inmates in the facility.

The penitentiary has become notorious for giving special treatment to famous inmates. Some of the kubols had TV sets, refrigerators and air-conditioners. But Abunales said that inmates are now wary of violating rules.

Junk shop fouls up Caloocan community

By Tina Santos

FUMES from a junk shop that allegedly has been burning tires, electric wires and plastic materials have been fouling up a community in Caloocan City, and the residents want the establishment closed.

Conrado Cruz, chair of Barangay 12 in Dagat-dagatan, Caloocan, said the residents, as well as those of neighboring Barangay 14, have also complained of the "intolerable" noise that has been coming from the Advance Metal Trading shop in Block 33, Phase III, F1, Dagat-dagatan.

The junk shop, which operates 24 hours a day, is owned by Rose Tan and stands on a 3,000-square meter property, occupying an entire block.

Cruz said that the fumes have already made some people sick, while exposing the rest of the community to skin and lung diseases.

Cruz claimed that they have already complained to the junk shop operator, but she has remained "indifferent."

He said they have also filed complaints before the local government and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, but they have yet to hear from either agency.

In a phone interview, Tan said that Cruz and the residents have "blown the issue out of proportion."

Although she said that she is willing to cooperate with the officials and residents of the community, she clarified that the fumes do not come from burning materials, but from a machine that is being used to crush metal scraps.

She said that the machine could also be the source of the noise the residents have been complaining about.

"The issue does not have to reach this far," Tan said. "I believe we can settle this among us. I'm willing to listen to them. But with what they're doing, I'm unjustly projected here as the bad guy."

She added that they do not buy or sell materials other than metals.

Vicente Pascual, 65, who lives just across the junk shop, said that he had been taken to the hospital recently after he experienced severe chest pains.

His wife Lydia, 60, also claimed that her cough and cold have gotten worse because of the fumes coming out of the junk shop.

METROBRIEFS

Drug addict kills own baby

AN ALLEGED drug addict killed his seven-month-old baby girl the other night in Tondo, Manila. Police identified the suspect as Isagani Intong Jr., 21, of Malonzo Compound, Pier 2, North Harbor, Tondo. Investigation showed that on Friday afternoon, Intong's mother, Editha, and Magnolia Arce, his common-law-wife, saw the baby with the suspect inside their house. Later, when they asked Intong where the baby was, Intong told them he left the baby with Arce's sister, Jacqueline, in her house on Wagas Street, Tondo. When the two women went to get the baby at around 7 p.m., Jacqueline told them the baby was not with her, police said. They confronted Intong but the latter told them he could not remember where he put the baby. At around 9 a.m. Saturday, Intong admitted to his mother that he killed the baby and hid her inside a pail. Police found the baby with her throat slit. Intong is facing parricide charges. *Margaux Ortiz*

He found a dead guard

A TECHNICIAN got a shocker when he discovered that the security guard he tried talking to was already dead. Ricardo Cifra went to the Microdata System and Management Inc. office at 817 JP Rizal Street in Makati City about 6:30 a.m. yesterday. Police said Cifra looked for a security guard to inquire about his plan of getting a certain equipment. But when Cifra went to the outpost where the guard was supposed to be, he saw the guard lying on the pavement dead. The victim was identified as A.C. Acenas through his nameplate, a security guard of TEMJEG Security Agency. Police saw no signs of external physical injury on the guard's body. *Edson Tandoc Jr.*

DOT: Days of abusive cabbies numbered

From page A20

the tourists," Gordon remarked.

Also covered by the new scheme are the "FX" taxis that had Mega Taxi franchises, according to Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) chair Dante Lantin.

Lantin said cab operators would be given ample time to comply with the requirement.

In addition to the Department of Tourism and LTFRB, the project is also supported by the Department of Transportation and Communications, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, the Philippine National Police, and the Land Transportation Office.

Apart from the new scheme, Lantin said cab operators would also have to install meters that issue receipts in their taxis for them to be able to renew their registrations.

Two-way radios would soon be a requirement for taxis as well, Lantin said.

As these cost around P15,000 each, Lantin said arrangements had been made with the Philippine Postal Corp. to set aside a loan facility for cab operators who could not afford to buy such equipment for their cabs.

There are currently 25,000 taxi units plying Metro Manila. Of these, Lantin has said only around 200 have complied with the new guidelines.

LIGHT FOR PEACE **Gerald Ortiz, KASAMA (Kabataang Sama-samang Maglilingkod) national president, inducts Atty. Roman Romulo as executive director of KASAMA National Youth Group. The KASAMA National Youth Group has an active membership of 25,000 nationwide. Established in 1992, the group hopes to empower the youth to be aware, relevant and responsive to the needs of the times. On July 26, the group will launch the "Lights for Peace and Nationalism" campaign in Pasig City.**

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SUNDAY, JULY 13, 2003

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Sunday SPORTS

E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph

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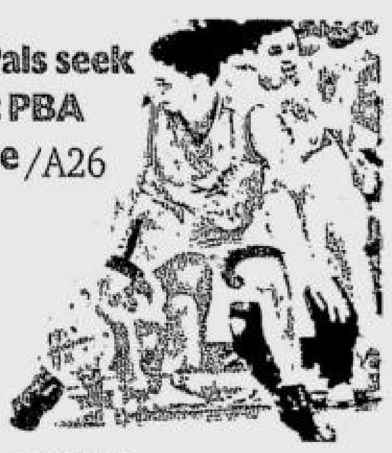
WHAT'S INSIDE



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66TH UAAP ON

Archers, Bulldogs tame rivals

GAMES TODAY (*Araneta Coliseum*)
11 a.m.—UP vs NU (Jrs)
2 p.m.—FEU vs Adamson (Srs)
4 p.m.—UE vs Ateneo (Srs)
6 p.m.—UE vs Ateneo (Jrs)

By Dennis U. Eroa

LA SALLE continued its mastery over University of Santo Tomas, 88-75, even as National University hacked out a close 74-70 win over University of the Philippines yesterday at the start of the 66th UAAP men's basketball championship at the Big Dome.

Rookie-laden but flashing the same fighting heart which gave it numerous titles in the past, La Salle overcame a shaky start to preserve its spell over UST, which simply collapsed in the homestretch.

Main man Mac Cardona terrorized the Tigers with his unorthodox shots, but he was cheering from the bench along with veterans Manny Ramos and Carlo Sharma when the Green Archers made their move in the final 10 minutes of the game.

"My rookies played scared at the start because of too much excitement. But they soon recovered and contributed much to this win," said La Salle mentor Franz Pumaren.

With the victory, the Archers kept their awesome record of winning all their openers since 1988 and stretched their domination of the Tigers to 11 games.

Playmaker Tyrone Tang, thrust into the limelight with Mike Cortez no longer around, did not disappoint as he fueled La Salle's near-perfect transition game, and Joseph Yeo spiced an all-around game with 18 points, including four triples.

Newcomers Jerwin Gaco, Mark Benitez and Joseph Casio gave Pumaren the luxury of resting his veterans by dishing out effective plays which unnerved even UST's grizzled players.

ARCHERS/ A24

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ASISTIO: Unstoppable PDI PHOTO

TEMECULA GOLF

Agojo, Asistio rout rivals

By Jong Arcano

MENIFEE, California—If ever he gets squeezed into the Philippine contingent in next week's Junior World tourney, Tonton Asistio would only have his outstanding performance in the 11th Temecula International junior golf championships to thank for.

The 13-year-old Asistio proved unstoppable even on the toughest of three courses used for the tourney, matching par 72 to rule the 12-13 years division with plenty to spare for his first international title at the Menifee Lakes Country Club course here.

Asistio actually snatched low-scoring honors even from those in the older 16-18 bracket as he turned in the only sub-par total in the 54-hole event.

Asistio finished with a four-under aggregate of 212 with his previous scores of 71 at the SCGA Members Club in Murrieta and 69 at the Red Hawk Club in Temecula. He beat compatriot Miko Yee, who rallied with a 71, by 15 strokes.

Also completing a wire-to-wire victory was 16-year-old Jayvie Agojo whose final-round effort of 76 for 222 put her 21 strokes ahead of another RP bet Matet Salivio (77-243).

Geleen Handog, 14, settled for fourth place in the girls 13-15 years after submitting her best score of 79 for a 243 total.

Birdies on the first two holes kicked off Asistio's concluding round. He added more birdies on the fifth and ninth to hit the turn at four under.

"With such a big lead, I think Tonton just became very relaxed in the back nine and made four bogeys," said Baby Asistio, a former congressman from Caloocan who is taking care of his nephew in his California campaign.

The elder Asistio believes Tonton's hard work back in Manila is paying off. And he's more than ready for his next tournament in Santa Anita two weeks from now.

Chances are, Tonton might even grab a last-minute slot in San Diego. Gerry Handog, president of the Junior Golf Foundation of the Philippines, said he has already inquired about a possible slot for Asistio in the Junior World citing his Temecula win as a lobby tool. He'll know the answer by Monday.

Handog, meanwhile, is meeting with members of the contingent tomorrow ahead of Monday's opening ceremonies of the Junior World which will feature at least 600 jungolfers from all over the globe.

Dottie Ardina won last year's 8-under play at Presidio Hills, but she will be playing in a new division, the 9-10 years age-group, this year.

Russian pugs lead finalists

BANGKOK—Russian boxers on Friday qualified for the finals in six of 11 divisions at the 12th World Amateur Boxing Championships at Bangkok's Nimibutr Gymnasium.

A strong performance by the Russian team—and Cuba, which sent four fighters into the final round—had been expected.

America's surviving contender bowed out in Friday's semifinals, and Zou Shiming of China became his country's first boxer ever to make it to the final stage of the tournament.

Two Thais also will advance to the final round, while two Frenchman will be contending for the gold.

Friday's fight card began with Zou's light flyweight matchup against Harry Tañamor of the Philippines, whom he defeated 21-13.

Zou overcame his biggest hurdle Wednesday by beating defending champion Yan Barthelmy Varela of Cuba, 22-15, which he said gave him confidence he could make it through to the end.

In the quarterfinals Zou, the silver medallist at the East Asian Games in Japan in 2001, beat Slovakia's Rudolf Dydi.

In the final he will face Russia's Serguei Kazakov, who defeated Noman Karim of Pakistan, 23-4, on Friday.

Sole US survivor Andre Berto fell out of contention Friday in the semis when he was beaten by Cuba's Lorenzo Aragon Armenteros, 25-15, in the welterweight division.

The Thai boxers who made it through to the finals were flyweight Somjitr Jongjohor, who will next take on France's Jerome Thomas; and lightweight Pichai Sayotha, who will square off against Cuba's Mario Kindelan Mesa.

PERFORMERS from host Ateneo treat the crowd with an opening day number yesterday. Inset is guest speaker Mikee Cojuangco-Jaworski.

AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Archers, Bulldogs tame rivals

From page A23

Powered by torrid outside shooting, UST nursed a 64-59 third quarter lead, but the Tigers were tormented by La Salle's tireless trapping defense.

The 6-foot-4 Gaco turned nifty passes of the 5-foot-7 Tang into baskets while Casio had the crowd roaring when he stole twice and hit a triple to give La Salle a 69-64 lead.

When La Salle's rampage ended, UST, which suffered from a five-minute scoring spell stared at a 75-64 deficit.

Derick Hubalde went 4 of 5 from the three-point area for 21 points, but went out of the game in the fourth quarter with a bloodied face courtesy of teammate Christian Luanzon's wayward elbow.

Earlier, the Bulldogs pounced on the Maroons erratic stand in the final four minutes of action to open their campaign on a winning note.

Scores:

First game:

NU 74—Mendoza 18, Miclat 17, Catamora 11, Tolentino 10, Bagulon 10, Balijon 6, Cajayon 2, Malcontento 0.

UP 70—David 15, Cervantes 10, Ibañes 10, Reyes 8, Almeda 8, Ferrer 7, Cruz 5, Epres 5, Bornancin 2, Robin 0.

Quarters: 18-25, 41-35, 57-56, 74-70

Second game:

LA SALLE 88—Cardona 22, Yeo 18, Tang 11, Ramos 10, Gaco 9, Sharma 6, Casio 5, Gatchallan 4, Benitez 2, Aquino 1, Cabatu 0, Walsham 0.

UST 75—Hubalde 21, Espiritu 14, Vizcarra 12, Villamin 8, Manansala 8, Luanzon 8, De Guzman 4, Dizon 0, Raterta 0, Pribdhas 0.

Quarters: 17-24, 40-46, 59-64, 88-75.

Norman's golf course ready soon

EXCITEMENT is building up at the Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club in Gen. Trias, Cavite as the huge workforce recently completed the grassing of the back nine of the course designed by Australian Greg Norman.

It will take just a few more weeks before the first playability test will be made at the Norman course, marking the fulfillment of what was first thought to be just a dream – four championship courses in one facility and the only of its kind in the Philippines.

"Yes, we've done it and we'll make sure to open it in grand fashion," said project engineer Winifred Gob, who is supervising the construction for joint venture partners Sta. Lucia Realty and Alsons Land, Corp.

With a character distinct as that of the three courses designed for Eagle Ridge by noted designed Andy Dye, Isao Aoki and Nick Faldo, the Norman course offers a new challenge to members and guests who all have enjoyed the so-called Eagle Ridge variety.

When three seems not enough, the Norman side make the Four In One vision a fruition.

And to make things even more exciting, workers are putting the finishing touches on the club's state-of-the-art Family Clubhouse that is touted to become the one of the premier sports and recreation centers in the country.

Gob said that with the grand opening of the clubhouse and Norman course set to be held at the same time, it definitely is going to be one memorable event to look forward to.

Even before the Norman course is opened, Eagle Ridge has already established a lot of firsts in the local golf scene, proving size is definitely might.

For inquiries on club memberships and tournaments, please call 046-4192841
or fax 046-4192843.

Philsoc under fire from Puentevella

By Marc Anthony Reyes

REP. Monico Puentevella yesterday questioned the decision to leave out government agencies from the Philippine Southeast Asian Games Organizing Committee or Philsoc to fast-track the preparation for the 2005 SEAG here.

Although Puentevella remains a member of the new Philsoc as president of the weightlifting association, the Bacolod solon told the INQUIRER that the shift to an all-POC Philsoc seemed illogical considering that government money will be used in the SEA Games the country will host for the third time.

He said he would ask POC president Celso Dayrit to produce proof of his claim that members of the cabinet can't serve in another office like the Philsoc, saying government people held key posts in the 1991 Manila SEA Games Organizing Committee or Mansoc.

"If there is a new law created between 1991 and now, then the reason for the change is valid," said Puentevella who just arrived from the United States. "But the important thing is that they produce proof to justify the change in the (Philsoc) composition."

The former Philippine Sports Commissioner said the new set-up would further complicate things because Philsoc will be manned by POC officials, who will then have to deal with government people composing the SEA Games Advisory Group instead of having just one collegial body.

"So now we will have two bodiesdeciding on the 2005 SEA Games," Puentevella added. "That might create confusion again like what happened between the POC and the PSC."

Puentevella added he would seek clarification from Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo, whom Dayrit said had agreed on reconstituting the Philsoc following an opinion from the Office of the President.

When the country hosted the SEA Games in 1991, then Tourism Sec. Peter Garrucho served as the Mansoc chair, and then PSC chair Cecil Hechanova was co-vice chair with then POC secretary general Francisco Almeda. Sen. Franklin Drilon, then the Justice Secretary, was also a Mansoc member.

Dayrit said the one-post ruling on cabinet members already applies then but they decided to allow the government people to be in the Mansoc anyway.

But Puentevella said it would be unfair for the government not to have a hand in the actual Games preparation when it is going to shoulder the expenses for hosting the Games which is estimated to cost $2 billion.

Mark boosts title chances

By Roy Luarca

PARAGUA

MARK Paragua stretched his winning streak, but missed a grandmaster result in the 2003 Champion at de Paris Open Chess tournament in France.

The 19-year-old Filipino IM beat French Fide Master Thal Abergel in the seventh round Friday night to vault to a share of second place with 5.5 points.

While the title is within reach, Paragua won't be able to meet the requirement of facing at least three grandmasters in the 69-man tournament for a GM result.

The eighth-seeded Paragua, the 1998 World Under-14 rapid chess champion, had the misfortune of meeting IMs and FMs in the first six rounds.

"It is all right. Now my target is to win the crown and increase my Fide rating (Elo 2500)," said Paragua in a telephone interview with NM Marlon Bernardino.

Handling black, Paragua sacrificed his rook for a bishop to gain tempo and an effective counter in their King's Indian attack game that ended in 51 moves.

"I have two bishops and five pawns against Abergel's rook, bishop and two pawns," said Paragua when his rival conceded. He's tied with former Russian Junior champion GM Andrei Shchekachev (Elo 2550).

The 32-year-old Sanchez, who serves as Paragua's trainer/coach, drew with French GM Manuel Apicella in 41 moves of a French defense and also dropped his quest for a GM result.

Sanchez, a Cebuano playing out of the Philippine Navy, was at 4.5 points to share 11th to 19th places. *With a report from NM Marlon Bernardino*

RP softbelles shine in Florida 16-under tourney

By Rey Danseco
Contributor

THE PHILIPPINES, represented by national champion Paglaum Village National High School (PVNHS) of Bacolod City, kept its title bid alive after finishing as top seed in the International bracket of the ongoing Second International Softball Federation Junior Girls (16-and-under) World Cup in Plant City, Florida yesterday.

With a 4-1 win-loss slate after the five-game elimination round in Group A, the Filipina batters drew a bye in the second round today.

Mentored by Renato 'Ato' Fuentes, the Nationals will face the winner between fourth seed Guatemala and fifth ranked Mexico.

The other games pit Venezuela (3rd) versus Ukraine (6th) and Chinese Taipei (2nd) against Jamaica (7th).

The winners will clash for the right to advance to the International championship against the winner of the encounter between the Philippines and the victor of the Guatemala-Mexico game.

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Kidd stays with Nets for $99M

KIDD AP

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey—Jason Kidd agreed to a six-year, $99-million deal to stay with the New Jersey Nets on Friday, rejecting an offer from the NBA champion San Antonio Spurs.

Since arriving via trade two years ago, the All-Star pointguard transformed the Nets from an also-ran into a two-time conference champion.

"After great thought and consultation with the important people in my life, I have decided that I want to remain a New Jersey Net," Kidd said.

Kidd's decision came the same day that word emerged that center Alonzo Mourning would join the Nets as a free agent. Mavericks owner Mark Cuban said in an e-mail to the AP that Mourning wouldn't sign with Dallas, and instead had chosen New Jersey.

A Nets spokesperson would not confirm the deal, and a call to Mourning's agent, Jeffrey Wechsler, was not immediately returned.

Mourning can't officially sign with the Nets until Wednesday, nor can Kidd.

Kidd and his family visited San Antonio this week.

He made his choice known just 24 hours after reports he wanted the Nets to get rid of coach Byron Scott. *AP*

Bird's new job

INDIANAPOLIS—Larry Bird returned to the NBA and the Indiana Pacers on Friday, taking a front-office job with the team he coached to the league finals three years ago.

The Hall of Famer will be president of basketball operations, taking over day-to-day decision-making from Donnie Walsh, who led the franchise since 1986 and will stay on as its chief executive. *AP*

'Buhay Siklista'

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

REMEMBER that cycling marathon I wrote about in this corner just a while back?

Well, it's slowly materializing.

Yesterday, cycling legend Jesus A. Garcia Jr. popped out literally from the dark to surprise me with a neatly written blueprint for the event.

"Here it is," said Biking Jess. "Fresh from the computer."

Jess arrived at dawn yesterday after about five hours of travel from his native Mangaldan, Pangasinan. He linked up with me at the Villamor Golf clubhouse where we had coffee together with Jake P. Ayson.

"Of all places, padre, why did you schedule our meeting here?" Jess said.

Told him Jake and I were to play golf as guests of Manong Pidiong (Mendoza), who hosted his pals at the ABC Golf Club to celebrate his birthday. You know what ABC means? Alligator-Buwaya-Crocodile. Cute, huh?

Also celebrating were ABC members Robert Limcaco, Reggie Manalo and Al Po.

"You golfers," said Jess. "You love scheduling meetings at the most ungodly hour.

But I like it here, though. Now I know why you are a golf addict. Just the sight of a golf course. Ah, it's really invigorating to the soul."

Jess brought with him a copy of the Sun-Star Pangasinan, where he writes a sports column that comes out twice a week.

"I have fallen in love with sportswriting after retiring from cycling competitions," said Jess, a three-time multi-stage cycling champion.

He said he quit biking two years ago when he met an accident at the McArthur Highway in San Fabian, Pangasinan.

"Those *kuligligs*, why our police allow them to travel in the highway at all has become a mystery to me up to now," said Jess, who suffered serious injuries when a *kuliglig* (a 3-wheel farm machine) hit the bike he was riding head-on. "I lost consciousness and when I came to, I was in the hospital, complaining of chest pains and bruises in my face and all over my body."

Due to the accident, Jess said he suffered trauma and trembled at the mere sight of a bicycle.

"Up to now, I couldn't even touch my bike at home," he said. "That was the worst accident in my life."

But he said he has not stopped organizing cycling marathons though. He has done close to 200 races already.

"This idea of yours with Mr. Bert Lina of Air21 and FedEx," said Jess, "It's really great. Thank you very much for tapping me as the chief director of the race."

My pleasure, Jess. And yes, the moment Mr. Lina is back from Anchorage, Alaska, we will immediately sit down in the company of Lito Alvarez to finalize the details of the Air21 Pangasinan Cycling Challenge, the name of the race which was coined no less by my *buloy* Al Fernandez, the former mayor of Dagupan City who is now DILG undersecretary. Let's invite Mayor Alfonso Soriano of Malasiqui, Pangasinan, to join the meeting.

I have only one request, though, Jess. Please sing "Buhay Siklista" before the start of the race and during the Awards Night to give tribute to Pangasinan's former cycling greats. No song other than "Buhay Siklista" can capture the essence of a true cyclist.

I'll do the guitar accompaniment myself.

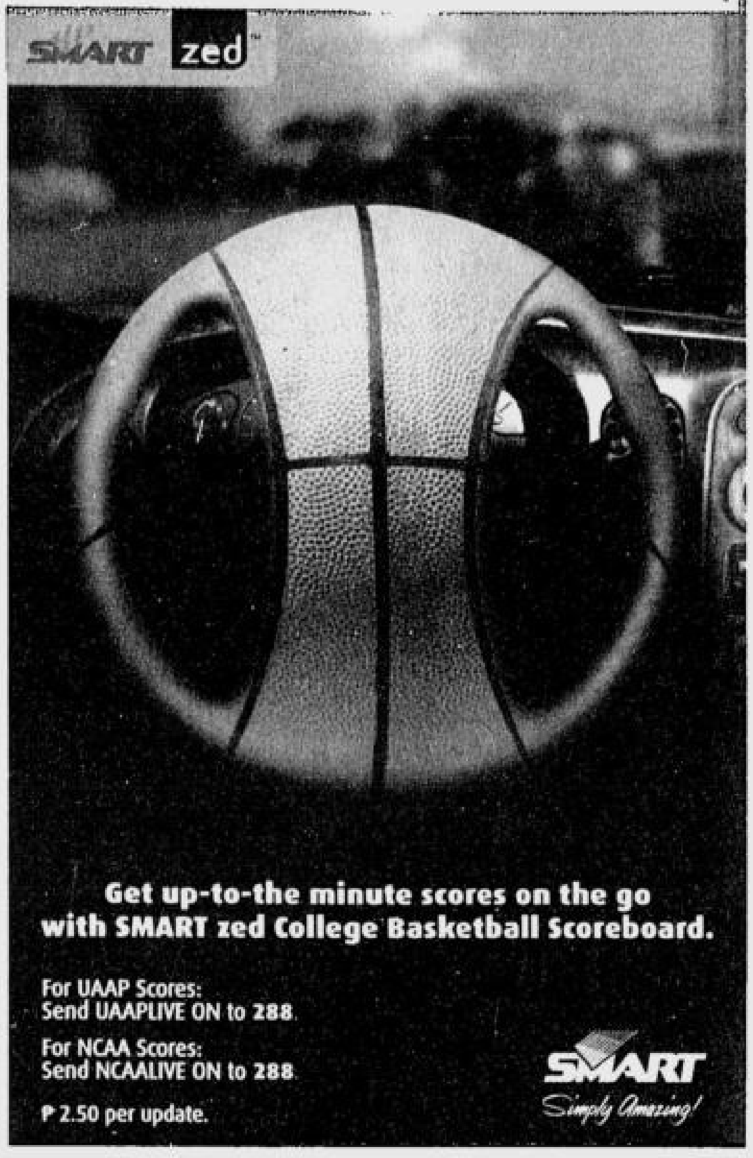
Lopez edges Bayron in playoff, tops Amateur Tour 2nd leg

MARC Lopez outplayed Jay Bayron in a sudden-death playoff to clinch the championship division crown in the recent second leg of the Samsung Amateur Golf Tour and Putting Challenge at the rolling Rancho Palos Verdes course in Davao.

Lopez two-putted for par on the extra hole, the par-4 18th, to escape with the victory as the hardluck Bayron, left to use his 3-wood off the tee in most parts of the final round when he broke his driver, missed the green from the rough and made bogey.

Lopez scored a couple of 74s for a 148, a 36-hole total matched by Bayron with his 77-71. Canlubang standout Jun Bernis' 79-71-150 gave him solo third place.

Nelson Tabbu foiled a father-and-son victory when he nipped Oscar Lopez by a mere stroke for the men's Class A crown.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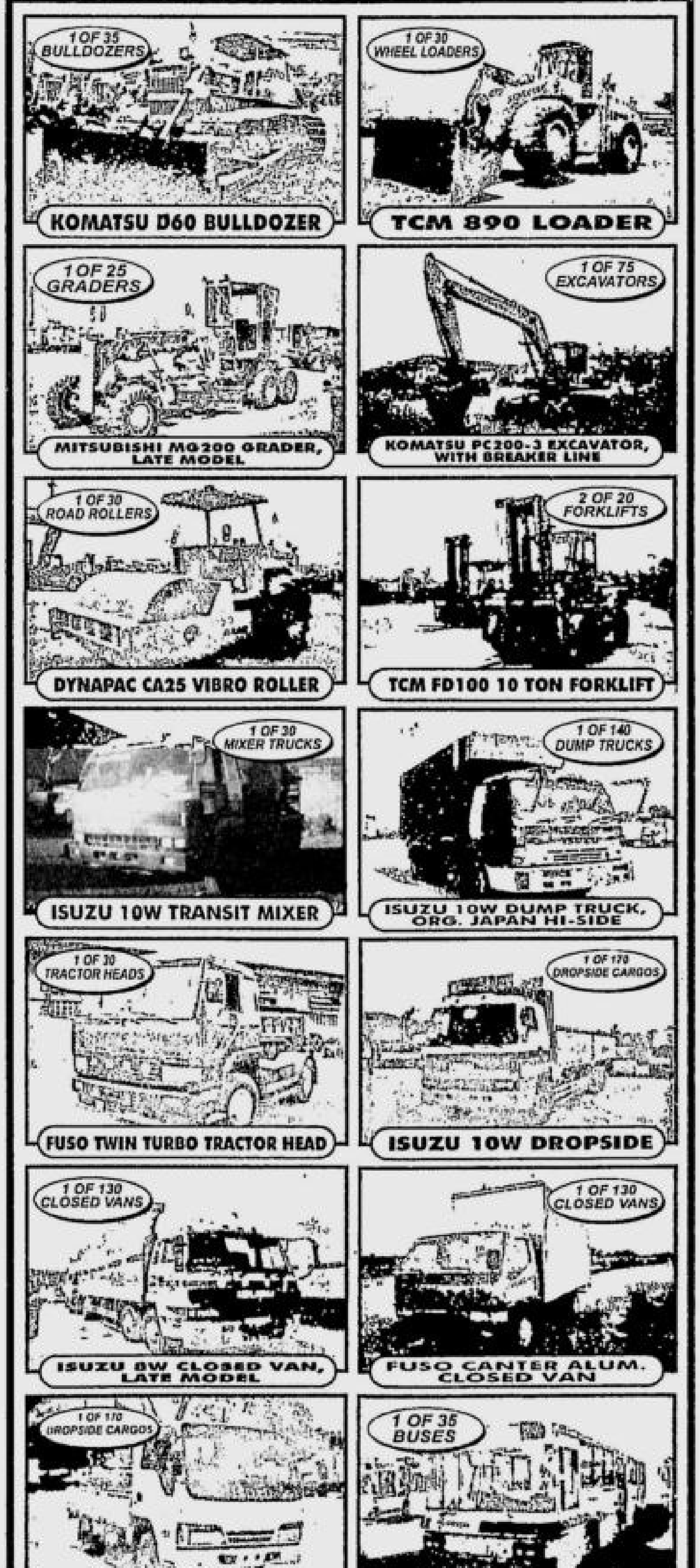
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AT A GLANCE:
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Game 2—Coca-Cola d. Talk N' Text, 92-89
Game 3—Talk N' Text d. Coca-Cola, 67-59
Game 4—Talk N' Text d. Coca-Cola, 99-91
Game 5—Talk N' Text d. Coca-Cola, 97-92 OT

By June Navarro

ONLY two teams in Philippine Basketball Association history have climbed back from a 0-2 hole to win a best-of-seven championship series.

Talk N' Text seeks to become the third squad to pull off such a feat today when the Phone Pals try to wrap up the Samsung-PBA All-Filipino Cup against defending champion Coca-Cola Tigers at the Cuneta Astrodome.

The Phone Pals, who joined the league in 1990 as Pepsi Cola, will also be shooting for their first-ever crown after 14 fruitless seasons in Game 6 of the best-of-seven series at 6 p.m.

The Manny Pangilinan-owned ballclub actually won the Centennial Cup in 1998, but that was outside the regular three-conference format, the tournament being a tune-up event for the RP Centennial team which competed in the Bangkok Asian Games on the same year.

"How sweet it is if we could wrap it up. But we cannot take Coca-Cola for granted. They (Tigers) are the defending champions and they will show it (the stuff they're made of) in Game 6," said Talk N' Text coach Joel Banal after his Phone Pals escaped with a 97-92 overtime win Friday night to take a three games-to-two lead in the series.

Asi Taulava sustained his game-long brilliance in the extra period and was ably supported by veterans Victor Pablo and Patrick Fran as the Phone Pals rallied each time the Tigers threatened to pull away in the last quarter and in the extra period.

The victory capped a three-game roll for the Phone Pals, who seemed doomed early in the series after the Tigers captured the first two games of the playoffs.

Purefoods and the now defunct Toyota share the distinction of having gone all the way after trailing 0-2 in the best-of-seven title series.

The Hotdogs pulled off the trick against the Alaska Aces in last year's Governors Cup while the Tamaraws repulsed San Miguel Beer in the 1982 Reinforced Conference.

But the Hotdogs and the Tamaraws needed a Game 7 to finish off their rivals and the Phone Pals will try to outdo them by taking the crown in six games.

Should the Phone Pals finish off the Tigers tonight, it would be a timely gift on the eve of owner Pangilinan's 50th birth anniversary.

"It is our faith that has kept us alive up to this point. But it doesn't mean we will not work anymore. The coaching staff expects Coke to make adjustments for Game 6," said Banal.

Rookies Jimmy Alapag and Harvey Carey, Mark Telan, Bong Ravena, Donbel Belano and Jojo Manalo will have to ease the scoring burden on Taulava, similar to what Pablo and Fran did in Game 5.

"Talk N' Text is getting better each game and we have to figure a way to stop them," said Coca-Cola coach Chot Reyes.

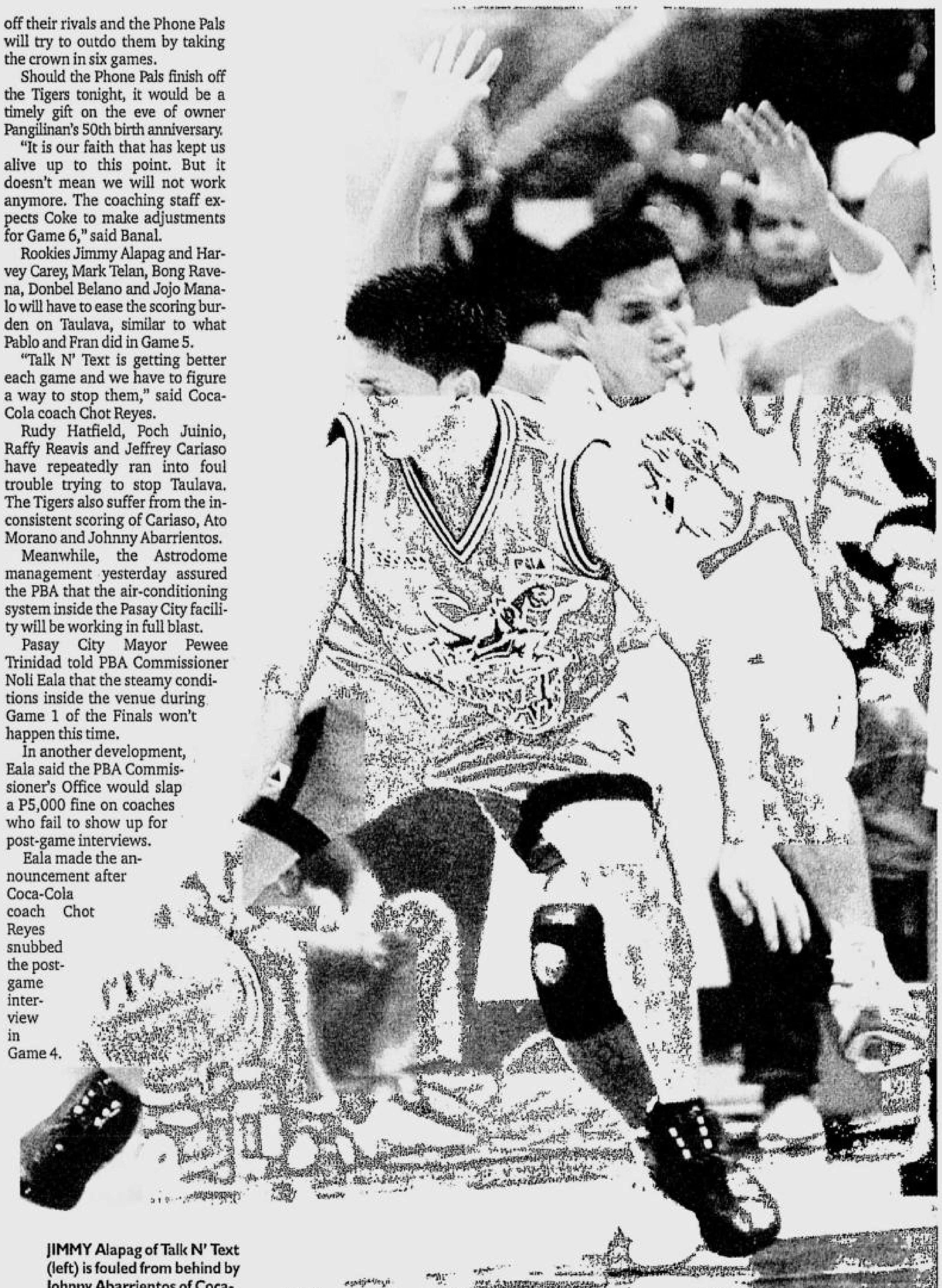
Rudy Hatfield, Poch Juinio, Raffy Reavis and Jeffrey Cariaso have repeatedly ran into foul trouble trying to stop Taulava. The Tigers also suffer from the inconsistent scoring of Cariaso, Ato Morano and Johnny Abarrientos.

Meanwhile, the Astrodome management yesterday assured the PBA that the air-conditioning system inside the Pasay City facility will be working in full blast.

Pasay City Mayor Pewee Trinidad told PBA Commissioner Noli Eala that the steamy conditions inside the venue during Game 1 of the Finals won't happen this time.

In another development, Eala said the PBA Commissioner's Office would slap a P5,000 fine on coaches who fail to show up for post-game interviews.

Eala made the announcement after Coca-Cola coach Chot Reyes snubbed the post-game interview in Game 4.



JIMMY Alapag of Talk N' Text (left) is fouled from behind by Johnny Abarrientos of Coca-Cola in Game 5. AUGUST DE LA CRUZ

Charmed coaching working for TNT

By June Navarro

EVEN before Talk N' Text could clinch the second title slot against Coca-Cola, coach Chot Reyes has already acknowledged the fascinating and unbelievable championship run of Joel Banal.

After five games in the Samsung All-Filipino Cup title playoffs, Reyes' observation has been further reinforced.

"I said it from the start and I will say it again, he's (Banal) got a charmed year," said Reyes after the Phone Pals overtook his Tigers in the best-of-seven title series, 3-2, with a 97-92 overtime win in Game 5 Friday night.

Reyes pointed to the potential game-winning shot of Johnny Abarrientos that went in and out as time expired in regulation of Game 5 as one proof of Banal's boundless luck.

"Johnny has a shot that went deep inside *tapos lumuwa pa.* That was a big break for Talk N' Text. I guess it's the hand of God that kept the ball out," said Reyes.

Banal, who won a crown in the Philippine Basketball League for Hapee-Ateneo and a UAAP basketball title for the Blue Eagles last year behind a scrambling run, also believes divine intervention had played an active role in the Phone Pals' three-game run after being down at 0-2.

"From within, there's something that wouldn't make us quit. I said it before and I will say it again, it's the hand of God," said Banal.

It was perhaps that heavenly help, Banal added, that guided Asi Taulava to hit his free throws more accurately than usual. Taulava buried 14 of his 18 charities in Game 5, an amazing effort if one were to consider his normal free throw shooting statistics.

The Phone Pals also proved equal to what Banal expected them to be as they turned out more than a match for the defending champion Tigers. And they never gave up even when luck seemed to have deserted them.

For Taulava, the motivation came from a player agent, who had taunted him no end after a loss to the Tigers.

No encore for Lunke; Daniel takes charge

VANCOUVER, British Columbia—There will be no encore this weekend for U.S. Women's Open champion Hilary Lunke, who missed the cut Friday at the Canadian Women's Open.

Lunke completed two rounds here 9 over par at 153. The projected cut late Friday afternoon was 3 over. She opened with a 76 Thursday and was even worse Friday, carding a 5-over 77.

"Yesterday was one of the hardest rounds I've ever had to play in my life," Lunke said. "I was absolutely exhausted. I was totally fatigued mentally and physically."

She has been mobbed by media, friends and family since draining a 15-foot birdie putt to win on the final hole of an 18-hole playoff Monday in North Plains, Oregon.

Meanwhile, Beth Daniel played another consistent round Friday to hold a one-shot lead after the second round of the $1.3 million event.

Daniel carded a three-under-par 69 for the second straight day, moving to 138 at the Point Grey Golf and Country Club. She gained sole possession of lead with a birdie putt on the par-five 18th. AP, AFP

LUNKE: Exhausted AFP

Els pulls away by 4

LUSS, Scotland—Ernie Els doubled his lead to four strokes with a four-under-par 67 in the Scottish Open Friday and insisted he was trying not to regard the tournament as a workout for next week's British Open.

The British Open champion has an 11-under-par total of 131. Welshman Phillip Price and Terry Price from Australia, no relation, share second place on 135, both after shooting 68s.

Meanwhile, Jerry Kelly's day was tougher than most at the Greater Milwaukee Open.

Kelly had to use a replacement putter for his final 10 holes Friday, but shot a 3-under 67 on a rainy, windy day at Brown Deer Park. That left him within a stroke of Jay Don Blake, the leader at the halfway point. AP

Kobe mugshot released

EAGLE, Colorado—Officials have released a mugshot of Los Angeles Lakers star Kobe Bryant, who has been accused of sexually assaulting a woman at a Colorado hotel.

Eagle County Sheriff Joe Hoy on Friday released the photo taken when Bryant turned himself in July 4 on suspicion of sexually assaulting a 19-year-old woman.

A decision on whether to charge Bryant will not be announced until next week.

Media organizations had challenged Hoy's effort to keep the mugshot from public viewing. Hoy said he made the photo available on the advice of attorneys.

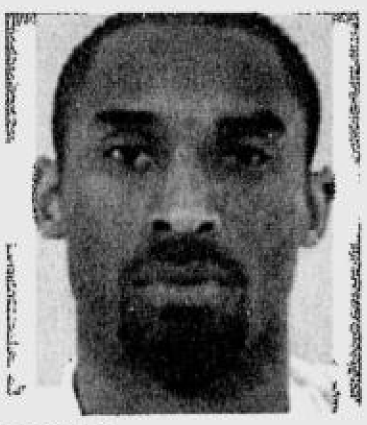
The low-resolution picture on the sheriff's Web site shows the 24-year-old looking directly into the camera. He is wearing what appears to be a white shirt or a warm-up jacket with black stripes on the shoulders.

Neither Eagle County District Attorney Mark Hurlbert nor Bryant's attorney, Pamela Mackey, returned phone calls Friday.

Bryant, a five-time NBA All-Star, is accused of attacking the woman June 30. Officials at the Lodge & Spa at Cordillera in Edwards say Bryant, who was in Colorado for knee surgery at a Vail clinic, was a guest there June 30 to July 2. Bryant's attorney said he is innocent.

Both Bryant and his accuser went to hospitals after the alleged attack, authorities said. They declined to discuss details.

The case was ordered sealed by a judge at the request of the sheriff. AP



BRYANT

WNBA All-Star game

CHERYL Ford, daughter of NBA star Karl Malone, takes the spotlight as the only rookie player chosen for the fifth Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) All-Star Game in New York City today.

Solar Sports will air the game live at 8 a.m. (replay at 11 p.m. on Channel 29 and on Monday at 7 p.m. on IBC-13).

The 22-year-old Ford stands 6'3" and plays forward like her father.

Dunleavy to coach Clippers

LOS ANGELES—The Los Angeles Clippers introduced Mike Dunleavy as their new head coach Friday.

Dunleavy signed a four-year contract to return to Los Angeles, where he coached the Lakers to the 1991 NBA Finals.

"I've had one other stint in LA and it turned out very well for me," Dunleavy said. "I figure two times will be the charm." AP

Streetball winners known today

THE SEARCH for the country's top streetball squads comes to a close today in the National Finals of the Adidas Streetball Challenge 2003 at the Glorietta Activity Center.

"It's been an exciting five months of street basketball as the event went on the road to pick the best of the best, the finest streetball squads in the country. We thank the Glorietta Activity Center for playing host to this year's championships. To the finalists, our congratulations. You are already winners. And we do hope to see you again next year for the Adidas Streetball Challenge 2004," said John Alonte, president and managing director of Adidas Philippines.

A special addition to this year's event is the Adidas-Gentext One million shoot-out. Gentext members aged 13 and above can join the contest as long as they are not professional basketball players or varsity players of any high school or college team.

Interested parties may register up to today at the Glorietta Activity Center. Four lucky players will be chosen from all the registrants to play the game.

Spectators of the event will also enjoy 50 per cent off on all the Adidas products on sale at the GAC.

The Adidas Streetball Challenge 2003 is co-presented by Globe Gentext in cooperation with WG&A, Adidas fragrance and body care for men, Powerade, Viva Mineral Water, Café Lupe, Cebu Pacific, Milo, Warner Music, Ford, Purefoods Corned Beef, Snickers, Pink magazine, Chalk magazine, Studio 23, Magic 89.9 DWTM and 99.5 RT

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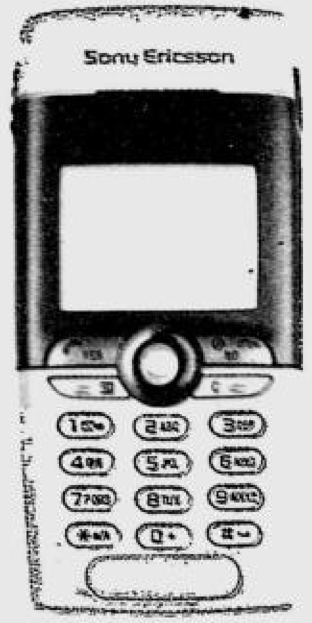

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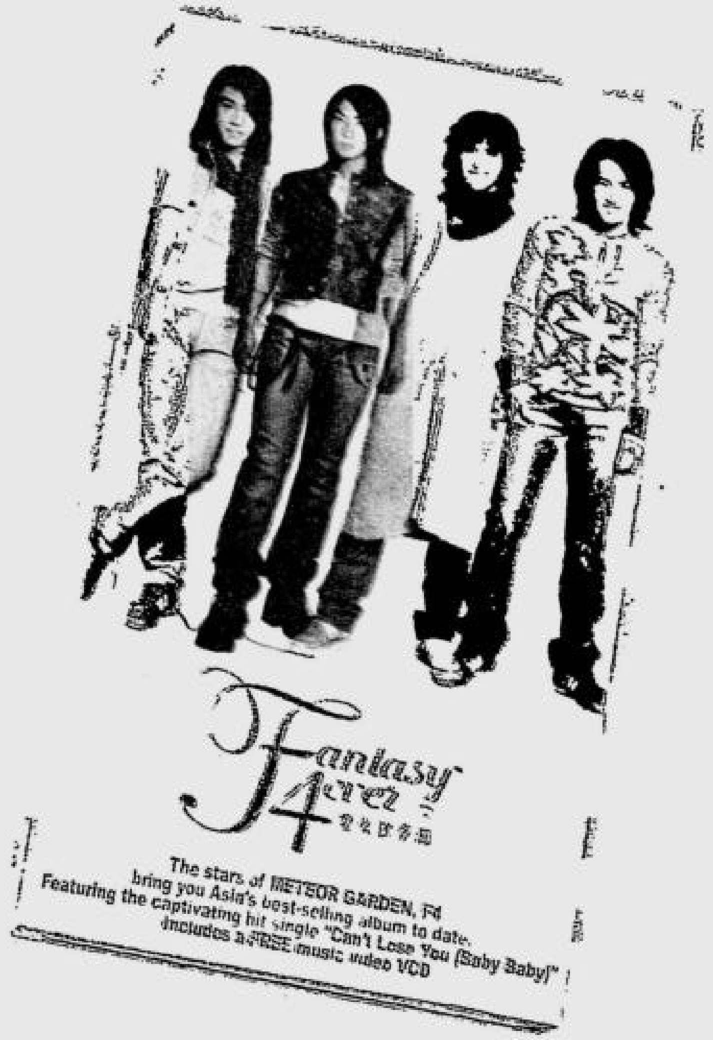

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1883. Series of 2003.

NO WAY TO GO BUT UP

Record ₱3.4-B racing sales posted

THE LOCAL horse racing industry is headed to another record-breaking year.

This materialized after the Philippine Racing Commission yesterday announced that total sales on regulated wagering for the first six months of the year has already reached a whopping P3.4 billion.

"As the trend shows, there's no way to go but up for our local racing industry," Philracom chair Jimmy Dilag told the INQUIRER.

Dilag added that the industry's total sales for the whole year can easily breach the P7-million mark and improve on the previous year's record gross of P6.79 billion.

According to Dilag, the first semester sales of P3.4 billion was an increase of more than P220 million compared to last year's sales and is expected to further rise by the latter half of the year, the traditional high point of the local horce racing calendar.

DILAG

JOSE

"We are confident that we would be able to sustain the industry's steady growth this year by coming up with more programs and policy initiatives that would promote and increase public confidence in the conduct of the sport," added Dilag, a former pelotari who also served as two-time commissioner before he was appointed to head the racing body by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Dilag also noted that the industry was able to sustain its growth despite the transfer of Manila Jockey Club's racing operation from the San Lazaro Hippodrome in Manila to the San Lazaro Leisure Park in Carmona, Cavite during the second quarter of the year.

"In spite of the considerable changes that have happened in local racing since April this year, the period of adjustment among the industry's direct participants and patrons did not significantly affect the industry's level of sales and income," he pointed out.

Philracom executive director Eddie Jose said that based on revenue projection, the government was able to realize more than P500 million in direct betting tariffs for the first half of the year alone.

The said betting income was directly remitted by the two operational race clubs to the National Treasury. As a result, all guaranteed prizes allocated by the Philracom for all its promotional stakes and special races would require the endorsement of the Department of Budget and Management before its eventual release.

The Philracom also announced that it has extended the Temporary Racing Permit of the Manila Jockey Club Inc. to conduct horse racing activities at its new site until Sept. 29. The permit, however, was conditional on the performance of certain undertakings relative to the ongoing construction and improvement of its facilities within a period of three months. *Edwin Villanueva*

Tips

ONE WINNER

Edwin Villanueva

HERE'S an interesting letter from a veteran *karerista* from Las Piñas. This is about giving tips or the so-called *kareristas'* guide on placing their bets. Read on:

Dear Mr. Villanueva,

Philippine horseracing has flourished through the years with sacred traditions, all of which have made it what is today—one of the top, if not the foremost, spectator sports in the country.

There is the early morning *trangko*, the midnight oil-burning program reviews by the *Bayang Karerista*, the forever-entertaining *silip sa parada*, the cold sweats of *dehado paratings*, the *kalampagan pagdating sa meta*, the ice-cold beer and mouth-watering *pulutan* at the club and various OTBs, and so on.

Recently, that cherished tradition has come under heavy fire from a Messianic few who have turned it into a money-making scheme through tips for sale. Reports have it that a recruit has to pay from P50-P150 to join—inclusive of an ID (it won't get you into a moviehouse for free though, nor swing a free bus ride) and a line to a tipping network. The few winners are then required to donate part of their winnings, while the many (let's get real) losers are told to stop crying over spilt milk coz there will always be a chance to get back their losses (when? the group can't tell of course!).

Anybody who knows racing will tell you that tips are what they are—a mere guide with no guarantee of success. Anybody who peddles certainty is either a world-class fraudster (sic) plain bozo or both.

Tips have been part of that rich tradition. You can get them free from newspapers like the PDI, old racing, friends, as well as the TV coverage panel.

But when one has to shell out money in exchange for tips, then we have to totally agree with Howie Basillo, Andy Sevilla, Ira Herrera and Vince Trinidad that the *bayang karerista* and the proper authorities must act swiftly.

First, allowing such a brazen affront to the industry to see the light is dangerous because it may set a very bad precedent. Second, consumerism states that anything bought comes with a guarantee (the group offers none). And lastly, tips for sale, I dare say, are nothing but a cheap shot, an insult to say the least, to the beloved *bayang karerista*.

Since four-legged warriors set foot in the Philippines to race at both San Lazaro and Sta. Ana many, many summers ago, tips have been passed on with absolutely no cash involved.

There is no need to change the system. If it claims protecting the fans' welfare, all the group has to do is plaster their tips at an OTB, or on a newspaper. But to claim they are collecting money because they care for racing fans is farthest from the truth.

Thank you and more power to your very popular column!

Ric Concepcion
Las Piñas, Metro Manila

***

To those who haven't collected their prizes yet, fret no more.

The Philracom said that prizes would be released in three weeks time as soon as it obtains its new check book.

"The Department of Budget and Management has already released the budget for prizes but we don't have any check book yet," explained Philracom chair Jimmy Dilag.

FAMILY AFFAIR

Mrs. Maribel Ongpin (left) awards the 2003 Jaime V. Ongpin Cup (2nd leg of the Triple Crown) to proud owner Butch Mamon (kneeling) and daughter Chloe Mamon, following the victory of their prized colt West Bound recently at the San Lazaro Leisure Park in Carmona, Cavite. Joining in the post-race celebration were Philracom chair Jimmy Dilag (second from left), Apa Ongpin, Commissioner Eddie Jose, Joey, Mio and Alex Mamon.

SPORTS TV

Compiled by L. Mangulat

POOL: World Pool Championship 2003; Day 1, 1st Session; 5 p.m. (r); Day 1, 2nd Session; 9 p.m. (r); ESPN; Day 2, 1st Session; 10 p.m.; 2nd Session; tomorrow at 2 a.m.; Star Sports * Pinoy cue artists continue their quest to be the world's best.

BOXING: Mayorga vs Forrest; 10 a.m. (r - 8:30 p.m.); Solar Sports - WBA/WBC welterweight champion Ricardo Mayorga defends his title against Vernon Forrest.

BASKETBALL: 2003 WNBA All * Star Game; 8 a.m. (r - 11 p.m.); Solar Sports; 11:30 a.m. (r); ESPN * Check out the finest female ballplayers as they gather in New York for the midseason spectacle.

MOTOR SPORTS: 2003 F1 Mobil 1 French Grand Prix; 6:30 p.m.; Star Sports * Catch highlights from the last race in the land of champagne.

·Schedules subject to change without prior notice.

Braves spank Cubs, post 8th straight victory

CHICAGO—Vinny Castilla homered for the second straight game and drove in four runs as the Atlanta Braves beat the Chicago Cubs 9-5 Friday, their season-high eighth straight win.

Castilla homered and had two doubles and four RBIs in an 11-3 victory Thursday. At one point Castilla had a hit in six straight at-bats against Chicago before grounding out in the sixth.

Atlanta starter Mike Hampton (5-5) allowed five runs and 11 hits in 7 1-3 innings. He also hit a two-run triple in the eighth.

The game's outcome was overshadowed by a scary moment in the second when Braves second baseman Marcus Giles collided violently with Cubs starter Mark Prior while trying to field a grounder, sending both players to the ground wincing in pain.

Giles left with a mild concussion and was released from the hospital after further tests.

Andruw Jones hit a two-run homer off Prior (8-5), who lasted 4 2-3 innings and allowed six runs and six hits.

Sammy Sosa had two solo homers, his 16th and 17th, and was 4-for-4.

Marlins 5, Expos 4

In Montreal, Todd Hollandsworth hit a tying homer and Juan Encarnacion singled in the go-ahead run later in the ninth inning to lead Florida over Montreal.

Trailing 4-3, Florida tied it on Hollandsworth's pinch-hit homer off closer Rocky Biddle (3-4) to lead off the ninth.

Hollandsworth was hitting for starter Brad Penny (8-6), who allowed Wil Cordero's grand slam in the fourth after retiring his first 10 batters.

Mike Lowell and Derrek Lee also homered for the Marlins, who have won seven of 10.

The win capped a day of good news for Florida as rookie left-hander Dontrelle Willis was added to the NL All-Star team and AL saves leader Ugueth Urbina was acquired from Texas before the game for three prospects.

Penny allowed five hits in eight innings. Braden Looper pitched a perfect ninth for his 17th save.

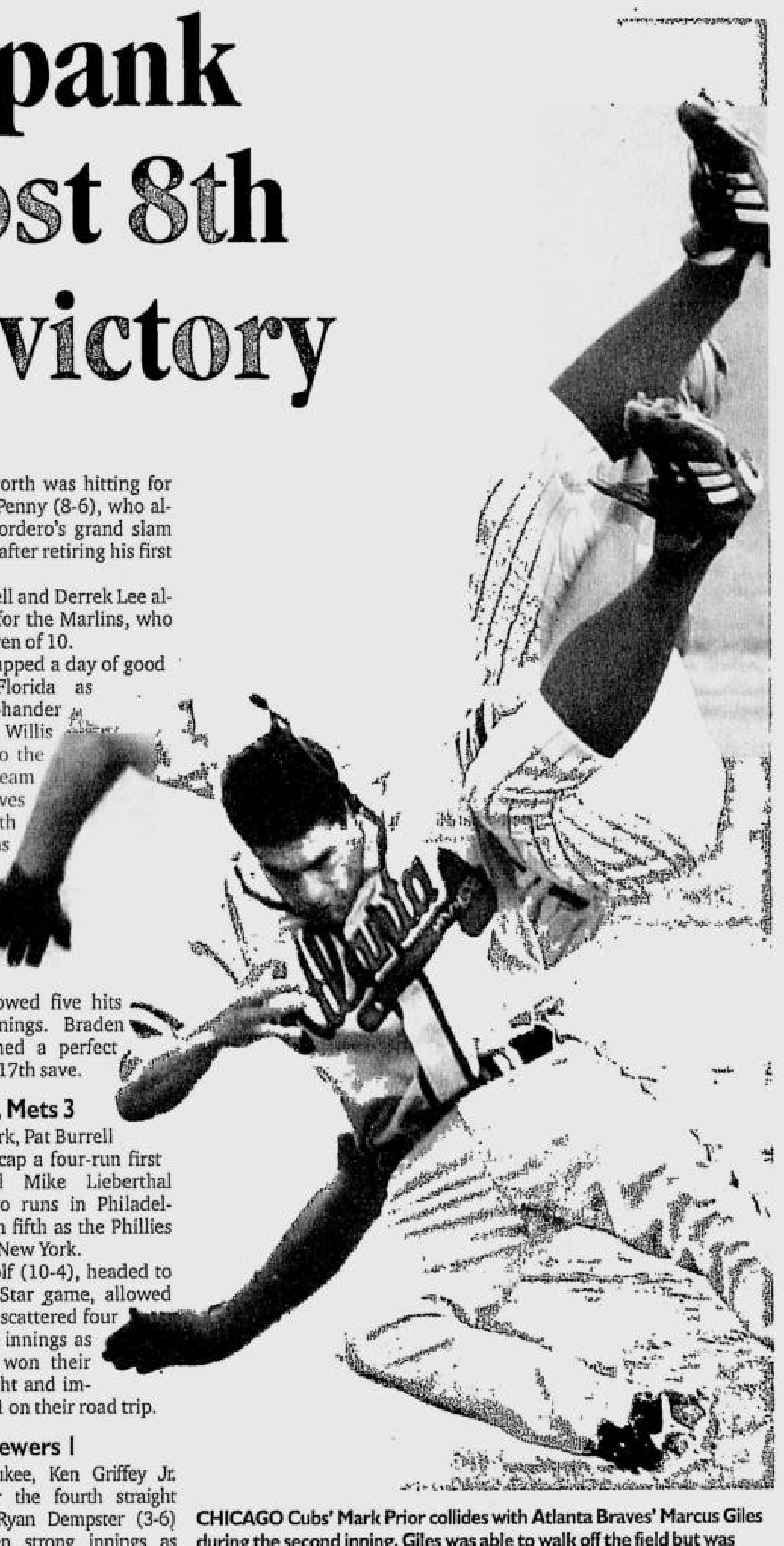
Phillies 10, Mets 3

In New York, Pat Burrell homered to cap a four-run first inning, and Mike Lieberthal drove in two runs in Philadelphia's six-run fifth as the Phillies cruised past New York.

Randy Wolf (10-4), headed to his first All-Star game, allowed one run and scattered four hits over six innings as the Phillies won their fourth straight and improved to 4-1 on their road trip.

Reds 6, Brewers 1

In Milwaukee, Ken Griffey Jr. homered for the fourth straight game, and Ryan Dempster (3-6) pitched seven strong innings as Cincinnati ended an eight-game losing streak by beating Milwaukee. *AP*



CHICAGO Cubs' Mark Prior collides with Atlanta Braves' Marcus Giles during the second inning. Giles was able to walk off the field but was taken to a hospital with a mild concussion. Prior stayed in the game. The Braves won 9-5.

AP

RACING TIPS

AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1--1. Native Prince 2. Flying Strike 3. Exchange Deal
Race 2--1. Mr. Purao 2. El Duque 3. Covert Lady 4. L'Islet Sur Mer
Race 3--1. Bumper to Bumper 2. Burning Light 3. Security Risk 4. Shower of Stars 5. Haz It All
Race 4--1. Up Rising 2. King Asa/Will to Fight 3. La Signorina 4. All Powerful
Race 5--1. Cat's Jewel 2. Western Legend 3. Lord Brian 4. Special Science 5. My Sheikh
Race 6--1. Princess Sophia 2. Tiny Giant 3. Hezagonebabes
Race 7--1. Muiskero 2. Real Gem 3. Run Like D Wind 4. Letshaveaparty 5. Well Noted
Race 8--1. Catwalk Pia 2. You Know That 3. Time Gentleman
Race 9--1. King Aldrin 2. Lucky Gambit 3. Friendly Lover 4. Love Triangle 5. Sir Louie
Race 10--1. Ganda 2. Earth Angel 3. Ebony Starr 4. Victory Lap 5. Cabernet
Race 11--1. Bukambibig 2. Jahard 3. Society's Pleasure 4. Sandstorm 5. River Bandit
Race 12--1. Elusive Quality 2. Diplomatic Bull 3. Action Mark 4. High Fidelity 5. Windlass
Race 13--1. Bold Lucky 2. Rose In Bloom 3. Queen Ramasas 4. Fine Offer 5. Master Strategist 6. Feast of Diamond

Lady jockey sees action in Apprentice Cup today

ANNALYN Reloto, the country's first female jockey, pits her skills against four other rookies in the featured Sec. Emilia Boncodin Apprentice Jockeys Cup today at the Santa Ana Park.

Reloto rides Hezagonebabes in the 1,600-meter event where the first placer gets P300,000.

Challenging Reloto are Joel Francisco on Tiny Giant, Randy Lagrata on Count Your Blessings, Alexander Gamboa on Princess Sophia and Francisco Tuazon on E-Mail:

Patterned after the international jockeys competition regularly conducted during the biennial Asian Racing Conference and the annual Apprentice Jockey Races spearheaded by the Macau Jockey Club, the local version of the featured invitational is an exclusive race for apprentice or novice jockeys, recent graduates of the Philippine Jockeys Academy

The assignment of riders for every entry was done through lottery last Friday, giving the new riders barely two days to familiarize themselves with their assigned mounts.

"*Gagawin ko po ang lahat ng makakaya ko* (I'll do my best)," said the 21-year-old Reloto, who like the other riders will carry 53 kilos.

Reloto scored her latest win atop Silver Print last Wednesday night.

Meanwhile, six imports collide in the third leg of the Philracom Imported Stakes Race Series, a 1,500-meter contest that carries a total prize pot of P450,000.00.

Heading the chase for the P270,000.00 top prize is consistent performer You Know That, a 5-year-old race mare by Honour And Glory out of Virgin Princess. The quick-striding mare is owned by industrialist Norberto Quisumbing, Jr. and will be skippered for the first time by jockey Jeffrey Bacaycay.

Expected to pose a big challenge is Catwalk Pia, also a 5-year-old bay mare, by Danzero out of Scotch And Coke, who is set to be ridden by jockey Jeffril Zarate.

Others in the field are American Dame, Tiger Babes, Cosanne and Time Gentleman.

Serious business starts for Armstrong in Tour

LYON, France—For Lance Armstrong, the fun is just beginning.

While his competitors in the Tour de France dread the mountain stages, which begin Saturday with the first of three alpine climbs, Armstrong anticipates them with a measured amount of glee. It's where the Tour starts getting serious.

Armstrong placed 39th Friday in the sixth stage—won again by Italy's Alessandro Petacchi—but the previous week was mainly an awkward case of keeping out of trouble.

There were some blips.

Armstrong, by his own admission, ran a moderate prologue last Saturday—finishing seventh—and was then lucky not to be seriously hurt in a huge pileup the following day.

However, Armstrong emerged from the sprint stages—where riders joust for space on harrowingly narrow roads—in top shape and on track to win a record-tying fifth straight Tour.

ARMSTRONG (right) leading the pack AFP

The 31-year-old Texan will take to the hills Saturday in good spirits, surrounded by his fiercely loyal and smoothly functioning US Postal Service teammates, and only a breath away from slipping the coveted yellow jersey onto his sleek frame.

Armstrong lies one second behind teammate and overall leader Victor Hugo Pena, with the roles about to be reversed in the seventh stage Saturday: A 230.5-kilometer (140.12-mile) grind from Lyon to the ski resort of Morzine-Avoriaz.

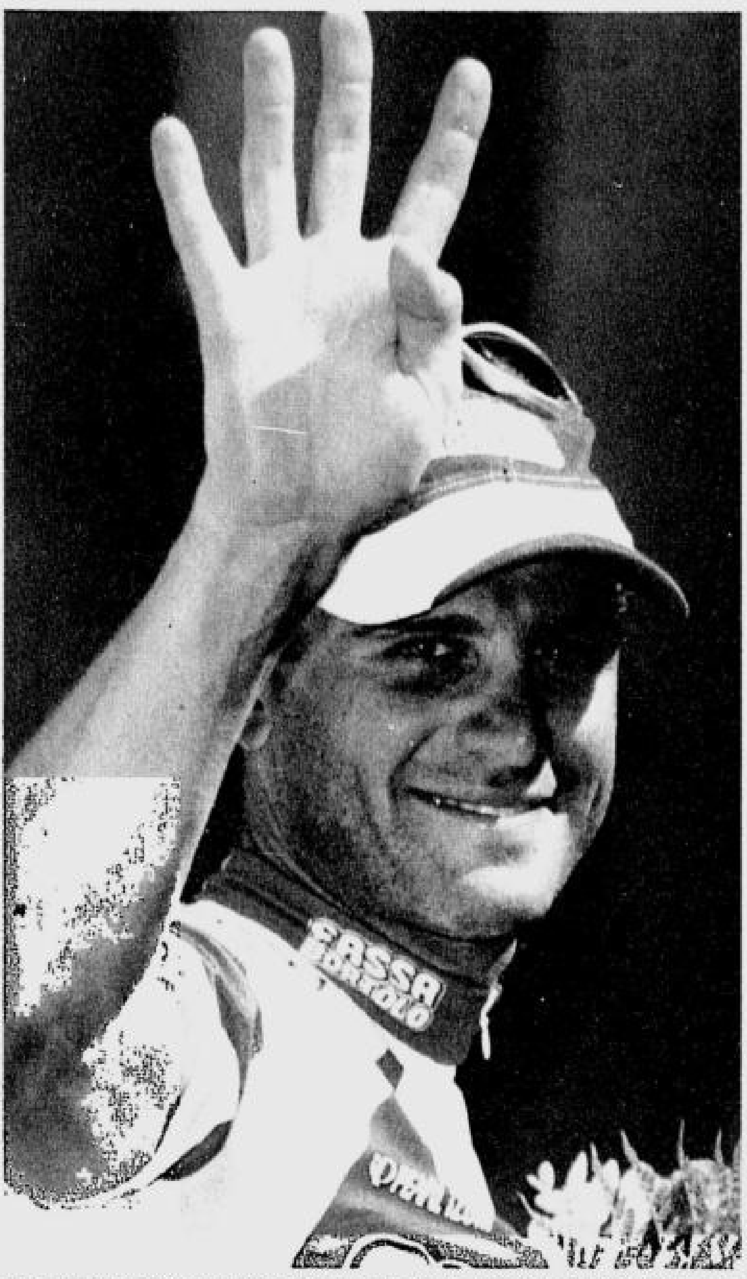
"We're going into the Alps," Pena said. "I'm going to do my job as a teammate to make sure Lance wins his fifth Tour de France."

Before racing Friday, Armstrong described Saturday's climb—which features ascents of 1,1619 meters (5,342.7 feet) and 1,181 m (3,897.3 ft)—as "a medium mountain day, not a monumental day."

Although conceding that "just moving on a mountain is very hard," he, unlike other riders among the 195 remaining, is not perturbed.

"Up until now, it's been a psychological game to see where everyone is situated. Starting from tomorrow the real Tour de France begins," US Postal's sporting director Johan Bruyneel said, adding that Armstrong is feeling very confident.

It wouldn't surprise if Armstrong was also thinking ahead to Sunday and the infamous Alpe d'Huez: The second of seven hill stages. It is one of his favored routes. *AP*


FASSA Bortolo team rider Alessandro Petacchi shows his four fingers after his victory in the sixth stage. REUTERS

Sturrup, Mutola win anew; Greene fails

ROME—Chandra Sturrup and Maria Mutola kept their Golden League winning streaks—and US$1-million jackpot hopes—alive, while Maurice Greene had his hopes of a fifth straight victory in Rome snapped Friday.

The Bahamian sprinter Sturrup captured the 100 meters at the Golden Gala in a year-best time of 10.89 seconds, while US champion Kelli White finished runner-up for the third straight week in the Golden League, where winners of the same event in each meet share a lucrative prize.

Rome is the third of six meets in the prestigious series.

"I know that now the jackpot is not just a dream," Sturrup said. "I think if I start thinking about it I'll lose focus."

Mozambique's Mutola executed the tactics in her 800-meter race perfectly, looking back at Slovakian challenger Jolanda Ceplak after passing her about 20 meters before the finish. Mutola won in a meet-record 1:57.21.

Former world-record holder Greene, who had declared Thursday that he would run under 10 seconds, finished a disappointing third in 10.09. Fellow American John Capel, back running after two years as a wide receiver for the University of Florida football team, won in 10.04, leading an all-American sweep of the first three places. *AP*

SPORTSWATCH

Mayorga meets Forrest anew today

LAS VEGAS—Ricardo Mayorga stuffs chicken in his mouth as he steps on the scales at weigh-ins. He's been known to light a cigarette in the ring. Sometimes he speeds in his car, and his mouth is usually going 100 mph, too. That's simply the way he is, take it or leave it, Mayorga says. "I am a fighter. With or without bad habits, that is what I am. When people like somebody, they accept them the way they really are," said the welterweight champion, who defends his WBC and WBA titles Saturday night in a rematch against Vernon Forrest. Hector Perez, cornerman and interpreter for the colorful Mayorga, accepts the boxer the way he is and even seems to delight in the freewheeling fighter's quirks. Solar Sports will telecast the fight live at 10 a.m. on IBC 13 with a replay at 8:30 p.m. *AP*

Ucap, LGBA schedule stag derbies

A BUSY lineup of big-time stag derbies are lined up at the Mandaluyong Coliseum beginning on September, with the United Cockers Association of the Philippines and Luzon Gamecock Breeders Association at the helm. Now managed by Ucap president Raymond Velayo, Mandaluyong Coliseum presents the Ucap 7–Stag Derbies on Sept. 2 and 4 (Biboy Enriquez); Sept. 9 and 11 (Louie Cua); Sept. 16 and 18 (Raymond Velayo); Sept. 23 and 25 (Ram Lopez and Bobby Doromal); Sept. 30 and Oct. 2 (Jet Fernando and Alex Tang); Oct. 7 and 9 (Blandy Tolentino) and Oct. 14 and 16. Entry fee is P20,000 and minimum bet is P11,000. The four-leg LGBA Stag Derby Series is slated on Oct. 20, 21 and 23; Nov. 3, 4 and 6; Nov. 11 and 13 and Nov. 18 and 20. The Bakbakan National Stag Derby (3-stag eliminations) will also be held on Oct. 28. For details, call 534-4110 and 535-2341. Sponsors are Sagupaan Hammer Dewormer, Sagupaan Mite Shampoo and Sagupaan Complexor 3000.

Mixed martial arts tourney slated

THE FEARLESS Mixed Martial Arts Championship will be aired on IBC 13 on Aug. 2 from 9 p.m. to 12 midnight. Sports and Entertainment Management chair Kenneth Bone and director Casimiro Ynares III said that Fearless 2 will have more action and excitement for its viewers as the event is gaining rapid support from international and local athletes. SEM is also working closely with the Games and Amusements Board to educate the public on the rules and strict officiating of mixed martial arts in the Philippines. Among those who have witnessed the inaugural event were celebrities like Rudy Fernandez, Aga Muhlach, Dudut Jaworski, Cogie Domingo, Raymond Bagatsing, Eppie Quizon and Ronnie Ricketts. Sponsors of the meet were Centrum, Discovery Suites and Discovery Spa, Federal Hardware, Kodak, Hotshots, Ford Libis, Victorinox, Gold's Gym, Alaxan, PCSO, Chef & Brewer, Chowking, De los Santos Hospital, Jaegermeister, Bobson, Promac, Pinoymma.com and Club Centro.

Fistorama fights at Malacañang Park

SAMSUNG's "Fistorama" today features as its main event a 10-round bout in the super lightweight division between RP No. 1 Ranel Mercado and RP No. 4 Al Deliguer. It is supported by a four-round matchup between Gomer Mendoza and Jayson Gueriba in the flyweight division. The fights were held recently at the Malacañang Park. The popular weekly boxing show is produced by Joe Cantada Sports. It is aired weekly in the United States, Australia, Japan, the Middle East and soon in Europe through ABS-CBN's Pinoy Central TV. Now on its second year, the show will be aired today at 3 p.m. on RPN 9. Its regular schedule will be from 5 to 6 p.m. every Sunday starting August.

Cuban archers fail to get US visas

HAVANA—Failure to obtain US visas in time means Cuba's archery team will miss the world championships in New York and possibly the Olympics, Cuban officials said Friday. Cuban Archery Federation president Nemesio Rodriguez said two archers received visas on Friday but two others had had no response. The championships start Saturday, and double as a qualifier for the Athens Olympics. "We had tickets to fly on Thursday to New York via Cancun, but we had no response," Rodriguez told a news conference. A US State Department official said security laws passed by Congress after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks caused the delay. "We've asked the Cubans to apply with a great deal of anticipation, well in advance, to ensure there are no problems with people running into deadlines," the official said, speaking on condition he not be named. *AP*

GOOD LUCK, BATA
Jose "Popit" Puyat, chair of Puyat Sports, wishes Efren "Bata" Reyes good luck before the latter and his manager Rolando Vicente flew to Cardiff, Wales to participate in the 2003 World Pool Championship. Looking on at right is Aristeo "Putch" Puyat, president of Puyat Sports.

B'minton tourney all set

THE FIRST Celebrity and Corporate Cup Invitational Badminton Tournament fires off tomorrow, July 14, at the Yellow Feather Badminton Center in Libis and the SM Megamall Atrium.

From July 14 to 18, national badminton coaches Butch Oreta and Danny So are conducting clinics at the tournament venue that would go with the fun games and exhibition matches by national players.

Twelve corporate teams have signed up for the Corporate Cup while a bevy of television and movie personalities are vying in the Celebrity challenge on July 20 at the Megamall Atrium.

Entered in the Corporate Cup are the Asian Development Bank. Bingo Bonanza Corp., CB Richard Ellis, Crossover 105.1–Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Dive Shoppe, Nokia, Philippine Star, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Pioneer-DuPont Chemicals, Philippine National Bank and two teams from Procter and Gamble.

Team Powerplay, headed by Olympian Amparo "Weena" Lim, is co-organizer of the tournament which has Quantum Global, Robson-Sportscraft, Ultramax, Lino's Food and Entertainment and Ratsky's as major sponsors.

The Philippine Daily Inquirer, Petron Blaze, 105.1 FM Crossover, 92.3 FM Joey, Spurway Enterprises, Bingo Bonanza Corp., Longines, Gatorade, Rudy Project, SM Shoemart, PC Options, Urbanscape Day Spa, Carlton, Picture City, Kontrol, Large Formatix and Pixel-Pro are supporting the event.

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Sunday BIZ

Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

Dad taught her love for work; US friends taught her survival

POWER lady. Ma. Elizabeth Lizares-Gustilo, president and CEO of Lowe Inc., the country's second largest ad agency.

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

STUDYING and working in the US gave her a survivor's kit that enabled her to compete well in a very competitive industry.

Ma. Elizabeth L. Gustilo, simply known as Mariles, is the president and CEO of Lowe Inc., the second largest advertising agency in the country. She is the daughter of Dr. Romeo Gustilo, one of the country's top neurosurgeons, and one of the founders of Makati Medical Center; and Nena Lizares of the notable Lizares clan in Negros.

Mariles was educated in an all girls school with four other sisters, where writing was emphasized while at home reading was a must. The sisters' games involved pretending to be working women.

"My dad always emphasized that you have to find what it is you like and you have to be a productive member of society," Mariles recalls. "My mom on the other hand was very religious so she always told us we have to use our God-given talents."

Her four older sisters all went to graduate school so it was expected that Mariles, the youngest, would follow suit.

"My dad is a great believer in education. If you have an education, you will know how to work and never be poor," she says.

After graduating in 1979 from the Assumption College, she applied for universities in the US.

While in between schools she worked at the then newly-opened Mandarin Oriental hotel in the PR department.

FIRST JOB

"That job gave me exposure and built my confidence such that I can talk to anybody," Mariles muses.

But, as expected, she immediately got accepted to her university of choice, Boston University, which she says had the best Communications program then.

Influencing opinion

The young graduate then says she did not know exactly what work she wanted to get involved in. The only thing that was clear was that she would eventually work and that she wanted something "that would influence opinion."

Mariles spent the next two years in Boston learning about independence and survival. She said her father gave her a very stringent budget.

THE FAMOUS Dr. Romeo Gustilo with youngest daughter Mariles, when she was eight.

"I learned a lot from my American friends—basically how to survive and live on a budget. They told me for example that if I wanted to eat steak, I should buy a large one and divide it into five pieces. That way I could have steak every day. They taught me that if I wanted to have crease-free jeans I should put it under my bed. Or to remove creases from clothes without ironing them, put them in the bathroom and turn on the hot water as the steam will 'iron' it.' They even taught me how to clean floors."

"They knew how to do these things as most of them were studying on student loans and yet managed well. I was impressed with their tenacity."

Her friends consisted of four women—a Jew, and Irish, a girl from Connecticut and a black lady from Detroit. To this day, the five have remained friends and have travelled together.

But although she did not need to work to finish school, Mariles did so simply because she loves working like her life depended on it.

Love for work

"I love to work. It enriches my life—and I don't only mean financially. Because of work, I've been in some of the most interesting situations, met people from all walks of life and gone to many places," she says.

While she was in Boston, three of her sisters were in New York, either working or studying. She was set to spend Christmas with them and wanted to buy them nice presents. But the monthly stipend from home was just enough to live comfortably on. She applied to be a part time sales girl at Bonwit Teller, one of Boston's fancy department stores (which eventually closed in the mid-80s).

It was the holiday season so the store observed extended shopping hours and had to staff up. She was hired for the after 5 p.m. shift in the expensive handbags section.

"I not only made extra money then. I even got to enjoy great discounts on gifts for the family plus a wonderful new winter coat that kept me warm for the duration of my stay in that cold city. It was also the first time it became clear to me that I can

DAD/B2

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Biography as history, character… destiny

By Dante M. Velasco
Contributor

"Living History"
By Hillary Rodham Clinton
Simon & Schuster, 2003

EXECUTIVE READ

THE FIRST reviews of Hillary Rodham Clinton's book forewarned readers that it is a "highly controlled" account of her life. Translation: She does not have much to say about the Monica Lewinsky affair.

When I told friends that I got hold of the book some two weeks ago, they asked if it was a "no-holds barred" story on former US President Bill Clinton's affairs and escapades. I was half-way through the book then, and I said. None of that. But I added: "You'll be pleased to know that Hillary is her own 'man.'"

By that I meant that now Senator Hillary had a solid nurturing in childhood, showing early signs of leadership on campus in high school, and reared in Sunday School and youth camps.

Baby boomers

Activist baby boomers haunted by the Vietnam War could identify with the burning issues of the day when she belonged to the then young generation—aching for a "new order"—and getting inspiration from social activists with revolutionary fervor.

This autobiographical account is actually preceded by a book authored by Donnie Radcliffe and published in 1993 simply titled "Hillary Rodham Clinton. The Evolution of a First Lady." That was, of course, a third-person account—while in this recent one the voice is that of Hillary herself: warm, witty, compelling and at times, pained—and, because of that, almost lyrical.

There is a much earlier book, "It Takes a Village," authored by Ms Clinton—and available in audio-cassette—whose thesis is that the entire village forms the character of a child. While reading it, you are led to note the contrasting childhood years of this interesting 21st century couple—Bill had a tumultuous childhood, while Hillary had a well-ordered one.

But, if character is destiny, then a daughter of a prim and proper Methodist family is expected to live a normal life, get an education, be a practicing lawyer and live on her fees and establish a family in a small city or town.

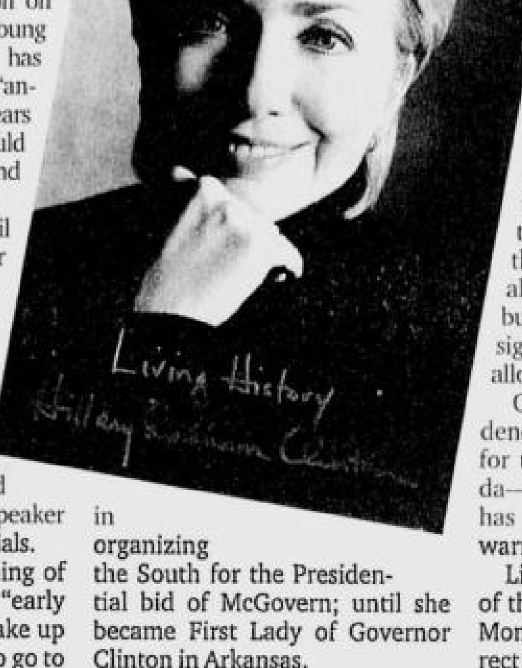
And yet, within the well-ordered world of a Christian church were voices of activism. Hillary found herself fascinated by leaders like Dietrich Bonhoeffer who stressed that "the role of a Christian was a moral one of total engagement in the world with the promotion of human development."

She was also introduced to Reinhold Niebuhr who, she says in the book, "struck a persuasive balance between a clear-eyed realism about human nature and an unrelenting passion for justice and social reform."

A youth worker brought her to the "University of Life," just a name for sessions where youths were introduced to thought-provoking ideas, themes and art.

Let's hear it from Hillary: "I first read E.E. cummings and T. S. Eliot; experienced Picasso's paintings, especially Guernica, and debated the meaning of the 'Grand Inquisitor' in Dostoyevsky's Brothers Karamasov."

That she remembered these names tells us that these encounters made a deep impression on her young mind—which has provided her "anchors" in later years when storms would visit her, and she would respond with resoluteness and grace.



She went to listen to civil rights leader Martin Luther King speak of a social revolution, over the initial objection of her parents who called King a "rabble-rouser." And, on her graduation day at all-women Wellesley College, she spoke and publicly disagreed with the commencement speaker to the chagrin of school officials.

But that was the beginning of the blooming of this "early bloomer." She decided to take up law and debated whether to go to Harvard or Yale. She chose Yale after hearing a Harvard official giving disparaging remarks about women taking up law.

She met Bill Clinton at Yale, and her account was one of an intelligent young woman slowly and irretrievably falling in love with her "Viking"—because Bill then wore a beard and was, according to her lovestruck eyes, "handsome." Until now, she says that Bill is "still the best company I know."

To cut the story short, she graduated from Yale; was a law intern in Washington DC working for a group led by future President Gerald Ford; and then joined Bill in organizing the South for the Presidential bid of McGovern; until she became First Lady of Governor Clinton in Arkansas.

Magnified role

She would realize that her stint in Arkansas was preparing her for a magnified role in the White House a few years later. She says of her role in Arkansas: "I came to realize the impact of my personal choices on my husband's political future." This was proven many times in their life together in the American political capital.

In the White House, in what was fondly called "Hillaryland," Hillary held court. An account on the health reform bill—which was given to her to push—is instructive on how a future law that would be good for the mass of people has to go through obstacles thrown by vested interests.

Told from the viewpoint of a wife with grace and grit, this account is a useful lesson in pushing a legislative agenda.

There are books on the Bill and Hillary "partnership"—some of them unflattering and uncharitable. But the partnership portrayed in this book shows a First Lady, really working behind the scenes but contributing intelligent insights to any decision that she's allowed to be involved in.

One views the Clinton presidency as one mustering support for the Democratic Party's agenda—and noting the ways Clinton has his way with intelligence, warmth and charm.

Like everyone who takes hold of this book, I was curious about Monica Lewinsky. So I went direct to the index—which directed me to a few pages beginning with page 440, under a completely unrelated chapter title: "Soldiering On." On that page, she writes: "Then on Wednesday morning, Jan. 21, Bill woke me up early. He sat on the edge of the bed and said, "There's something in today's papers you should know about." She asks: "What are you talking about?" The rest, what everybody was talking about, is dealt sparsely in this chapter. Hillary is telling the readers that this incident is just a footnote in her living history.

Through a public ordeal like an impeachment and a private-public embarrassment like a husband's affair—Hillary, after letting us in through an ocean of text, gives us this quote from theologian Paul Tillich, titled "You Are Accepted."

Grace

Hillary reflects: "Its premise is how sin and grace exist through life in constant interplay; neither is possible without the other. The mystery of grace is that you cannot look for it." She quotes Tillich:

"Grace strikes us when we are in great pain and restlessness. It happens or it does not happen." Hillary is categorical compared to Tillich's non-commital statement: "Grace happens. Until it did, my main job was to put one foot in front of the other and get through another day."

"Another day" for Hillary was to run for New York senator—to win. Once a reluctant candidate, she found the answer when she saw a giant banner, the title of an HBO film, promoting women in sports. The banner said, "Dare to Compete."

Hillary did, and now she is Senator Hillary Clinton. Is the US Presidency far behind?

Whatever it is, this book—especially for us in this side of the world—tells us America's (and the world's) living history as biography in the eyes, not of a spectator, but of an "actor and player" at center stage. Her youthful years showed a character formed by genes and her generation's burning issues. Then she embraced her own destiny, one step at a time—with faith and grace.
(cpoint@fastmail.i-next.net)

Dad taught her love for work; US friends …

From page B1

get what I want and more for as long as I'm willing to work for it. Quite an empowering feeling…," she recalls

That feeling made her look for other work through her study years. A teaching assistantship for the next two semesters afforded her a chance to experience the legendary, all-American happening called Spring Break in Florida.

As Boston being a cold place, students would long for the warm climate. And coming to school with a tan was a status symbol. The nearest for this kind of weather was Florida. As she and her friends were on a shoestring budget, they flew to Florida on the cheapest flight which was at one in the morning. Luckily they had a wealthy classmate whose family lived in Florida and invited them over.

During her stay in Boston she walked through the halls of power in Washington as student member of the Council of Foreign Affairs. Her teaching assistantship enabled her to have a little extra money to watch concerns and plays, visit museums and buy gooks, all at discounted student prices.

And then there was her part time job at Ms Broadbine's travel agency.

"Ms Broadbine was a 90-year-old lady from one of Boston's wealthy families. Her travel agency arranged only the most exotic trips for its wealthy clients—trips to Seychelles, trips to Machu Picchu in Peru, safari trips to Kenya …," describes Mariles. The job was an all-around assistant two afternoons a week for three months, answering phones, doing ticketing. It exposed her to a fascinating aspect of world travel, which today has become quite a personal passion.

With all the fun things she was doing, Mariles decided to stay in the US.

"It was unthinkable to go home just then. I was having too much fun!" she explained. But it was also clear she could stay only if she got a job.

With a degree in Communications tucked under her belt, she moved to New York and plied the streets everyday for weeks looking for a job alongside throves of people.

Once more, her willingness to work on anything paid off. An employment agency scheduled her for an interview with Bantam Books. Their advertising department was in need of an administrative assistant.

The fact that she was overqualified for the job did not bother her. All she had to do was pass a typing test which, despite very poor skills, she managed to do. And she got the job that would allow her to stay in NY for the next couple of years.

Bantam paid her $250 a week and although she had two sisters in NY she decided to get her own place which she rented for $300 (six blocks from her sister, Marivic).

THE SUCCESSFUL Gustilo sisters. (Front) Clinical psychologist Dido Villasor, educator Maricar de Ocampo, NY banker Marivic Travis. (Back) Professional fund raiser Marielou Catalan and Mariles.

Her flat was a one room affair. When her dad saw it, he told her her room in Manila was much bigger. But Mariles was happy and independent.

The job at Bantam Books proved to be an exciting one. It did not take long for management to notice that she had more to offer. In a few months, she was promoted to an executive position as Promotions Assistant.

Through it, she met some of the most famous authors in the world such as Alvin Toffler, Tom Robbins, Robert Ludlum, Judith Krantz, even the late Barbara Cartland. She had access to all the books her heart desired. But best of all, it gave her a front row seat to the publishing world as a business.

By the time she left Bantam she had worked her way up to Assistant Promo and Advertising Manager.

After two and half years of working, Mariles reached a point where she wondered if she should stay in the US for good or go back to Manila. Her sisters told her the only way to decide would be to go home and see for herself whether the Manila lifestyle was for her.

Crucial to the decision was the work she would find. As fate would have it, the work she found was not in publishing but in advertising. She was hired by McCann Erickson Philippines as accounts director. After a few years she moved to Lowe (then Lintas) where she has stayed for nearly 20 years.

Despite the lack of ad agency experience, she took to advertising like fish to water. She quickly learned the ropes and, as she had always done, simply worked.

Two decades in the job and she says she still loves it. The virtue of being productive, instilled by her father remains.

Mariles is still single but is living her live to the fullest. She continues to see her graduate school friends and those she became close to in Bantam. She regularly goes to the US. These days she plays badminton, does Pilates and horse riding, which she was exposed to as a young girl but which she became passionate about in adult life.

MARILES in her Boston University flat with roommate Patty Lim and sister Teresa "Dido" Villasor (right).

MARILES during the mid-80s, as a young advertising executive in Manila.

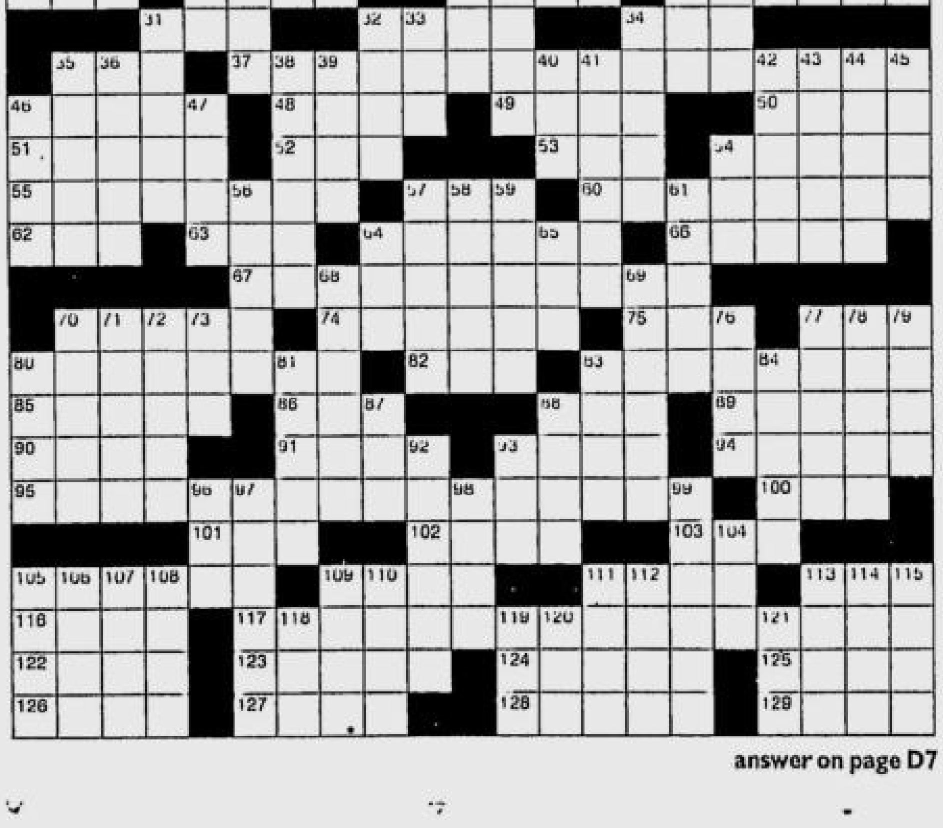
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Donna J. Stone

DON'T BE ALARMED

ACROSS
1 Writer Roald
5 Taxing time?
10 Thousand —, CA
14 — vu
18 Soap additive
19 Range rope
20 Tall story?
21 25 Across maneuver
22 Start of a remark by Henny Youngman
25 Skater Lipinski
26 Settled on the sofa
27 Pump part
28 Pressing need
29 Runnymede's river
31 Morning moisture
32 Baltic city
34 Sault — Marie, MI
35 Chop
37 Part 2 of remark
46 Silly Soupy
48 Designer Ricci
49 Mrs. Nick Charles
50 Parent
51 Folklore figure
52 AAA offering
53 "— the Dog" ('97 film)
54 Ballroom dance
55 Fabric ornament
57 Mil. honor
60 Casanova, for one
62 Caviar
63 Wagner's "— Rheingold"
64 Vaudeville's Tucker
66 Islamic title
67 Part 3 of remark
70 Frank or Dweezil
74 Greet the general
75 Peculiar
77 "A mouse!"
80 Biblical city
82 Nice season
83 German shepherd
85 Cropped up
86 Goal
88 Pub order
89 Elbow
90 Quindlen's "One — Thing"
91 Paper quantity
93 Trauma aftermath
94 "Die Fledermaus" maid
95 Part 4 of remark
100 Prospector's prize
101 Time to evolve?
102 Travel with Tonto
103 "Tell — About It" ('83 hit)
105 Mideastern mall?
109 Singer Lesley
111 Iowa city
113 Task
116 Prayer finale
117 End of remark
122 Tilt
123 Hood's handle
124 "Wait — Dark" ('67 film)
125 Similar
126 Punta del —
127 Neighbor of Ark.
128 Mars has two
129 Gnat or brat

DOWN
1 Place to pontificate
2 — Romeo
3 Songwriter Axton
4 Singer Sayer
5 They're kept in a quiver
6 Rind
7 Fury
8 Robert of "Quincy, M.E."
9 Chou En-—
10 "Beetle Bailey" dog
11 Like — of bricks
12 Rib
13 Diva Renata
14 Base stuff?
15 Final
16 Actor Burns
17 "Oh, woe!"
20 With — of salt
23 Employ
24 Imminent
30 Female fowl
31 Reside
32 Artist Magritte
33 Call — day
34 Play ground?
35 Silent star?
36 Wed in haste
38 Torrent
39 Speck
40 Right away
41 Concrete component
42 Fuming
43 Bottled spirit?
44 Cartoon Viking
45 '82 Jeff Bridges film
46 TV's "— Search"
47 Coasted
54 Pro — (for now)
56 Doha's country
57 Holmes' creator
58 Teapot part
59 Coal conveyance
61 Must-haves
64 Police hdqrs.
65 — de France
68 More pallid
69 Jacket type
70 Bernardo's boss
71 Romance
72 Puzzling problem
73 Affix meaning "before"
76 Delany or Wynter
77 Duck down
78 Bald bird
79 Patella's place
80 Gangsters' guns
81 Composer Copland
83 Fruit-tree spray
84 English dynasty
87 Welcome item?
88 Lot size
92 Udall or West
93 Lay down the lawn
96 Nay opponent
97 Setup
98 Appearance
99 Automobile, informally
104 Kreskin's letters
105 Bound bundle
106 Author Kingsley
107 Gusto
108 Relative of 73 Down
109 Prepare to bear it
110 — even keel
111 Choir member
112 Chow —
113 Boxer LaMotta
114 Model Carre
115 Crooked
118 Seville shout
119 Chew it!
120 —-Cal
121 Peke's perch



answer on page D7

New dress code suits men's apparel retailers

NEW YORK—When the going gets tough, put on a new suit.

Sales of men's suits are showing signs of life after a two year slump as businesses revive dress codes and more Americans suit-up to compete for jobs.

"The trend toward casual clothing seems to be reversing a bit," said analyst Christopher Ragazzo of Sidoti & Co. LLC. And he said men's' stores have an easier time selling suits and formal wear than mass-market stores because they offer more specialized merchandise.

Fremont, California-based Men's Wearhouse Inc. on Thursday posted a better-than-expected 7.6 percent increase in sales at stores open at least a year for June, helped by suits and tuxedo rentals. It said it would consequently meet or exceed earnings of 25 cents per share in the second quarter, compared with its prior view of between 22 cents and 25 cents.

"The replenishment cycle is kicking in, where you want to start to replace things, and the catalyst is that you're getting trends toward more tailored apparel," said William Baldwin, an analyst for Baldwin Anthony Securities. He said a pick-up in demand for suits was especially pronounced over the past six months.

People tend to be more aware of dressing for success when jobs are scarce and competition is fierce. The US unemployment rate in June reached a fresh nine-year high, while the economy lost 30,000 jobs, the government said last week.

"If you go for an interview, you want to dress up for that," Baldwin said.

Menswear retailer JoS A. Bank Clothiers Inc. said on Thursday its same-store sales—a key gauge of retail performance—surged 15.2 percent for the month, sparking a rally in the stock to an all-time high.

Shares of Hampstead, Maryland-based JoS. A. Bank, which owns 178 stores, rose to $39.17 on the Nasdaq—its highest level since it began trading in May 1994—before closing up 5.19 percent at $38.28 on Thursday.

"Most of our major product categories posted sales increases in June, with suits, dress shirts and ties being particularly strong," chief executive officer Robert Wildrick said in a statement.

Preston Silvey, an analyst for First Dallas Securities, said specialty menswear companies were not only benefiting from the dress-up trend, but also from tweaking their merchandise and operations. For example, they have lowered prices and eliminated suits that easily fetched $700 during the dot-com boom of the late '90s.

But at discounters and department stores, men's apparel has typically proved to be more of a sore spot than a hot seller.

Target Corp. has cited men's apparel as one of its weakest areas in same-store sales reports in recent months.

Men's clothing has also long underperformed women's at department stores and specialty apparel retailers including Gap Inc. and Abercrombie & Fitch Co.

Shares of Men's Wearhouse, which are up 32 percent since the beginning of the year, closed up 18 cents at $23.70 on the New York Stock Exchange. The company operates about 690 stores.

Reuters

SALES of men's suits show signs of life after two-year slump.

Card firms tie-up for first EMV-compliant plastic cards

BANCNET, MasterCard and Mondex recently signed an agreement that introduced smart card based EMV-compliant ATM in the Philippines. This makes BancNet the first EMV-compliant ATM system in the country and in the Asia/Pacific region.

This means BancNet cards will be chip-based and will be able to carry more information for future use.

With the agreement, MasterCard will support BancNet in its move towards EMV compliance while Mondex will provide BancNet with a framework for an e-purse system.

The Mondex e-purse is one of the most electronically advanced cash payment system that frees consumers and merchants from cash. Mondex can be used for simple, everyday transactions. It operates through a chip-based card that is embedded with a microchip processor that stores information and runs on a highly secure platform.

ATM consortium

Signing the agreement were BancNet chair Angelito M. Villanueva and BancNet president Ricardo R. Chua, both senior officers of BancNet member banks Metrobank and Chinabank, respectively; MasterCard International country manager, Jose Rene L. Villa-Real; Mondex Asia vice president Shuan Ghaidan; and Mondex Philippines president and CEO Jose Benjamin S. Fernandez.

"As the first ATM consortium to move towards EMV compliance, BancNet will be able to gain access to Mondex's and MasterCard's extensive network. This in turn will provide our consumers with speed, convenience and access to more delivery channels. This also paves the way for a more efficient delivery of products and services through an improved infrastructure," said Chua.

"When fully implemented, EMV will greatly reduce the risks that go with cash transactions. Soon, even the simplest of transactions, like paying for your meal in a fast food restaurant, will be conducted via EMV and that's convenience at its best. The bottom line is that everybody will benefit from this collaboration," said Villanueva.

Ghaidan echoed the sentiments of Chua and Villanueva. "EMV will take payments to a higher level of speed and convenience for our cardholders," he said. "The tie-up will enable Mondex to make use of BancNet's impressive infrastructure."

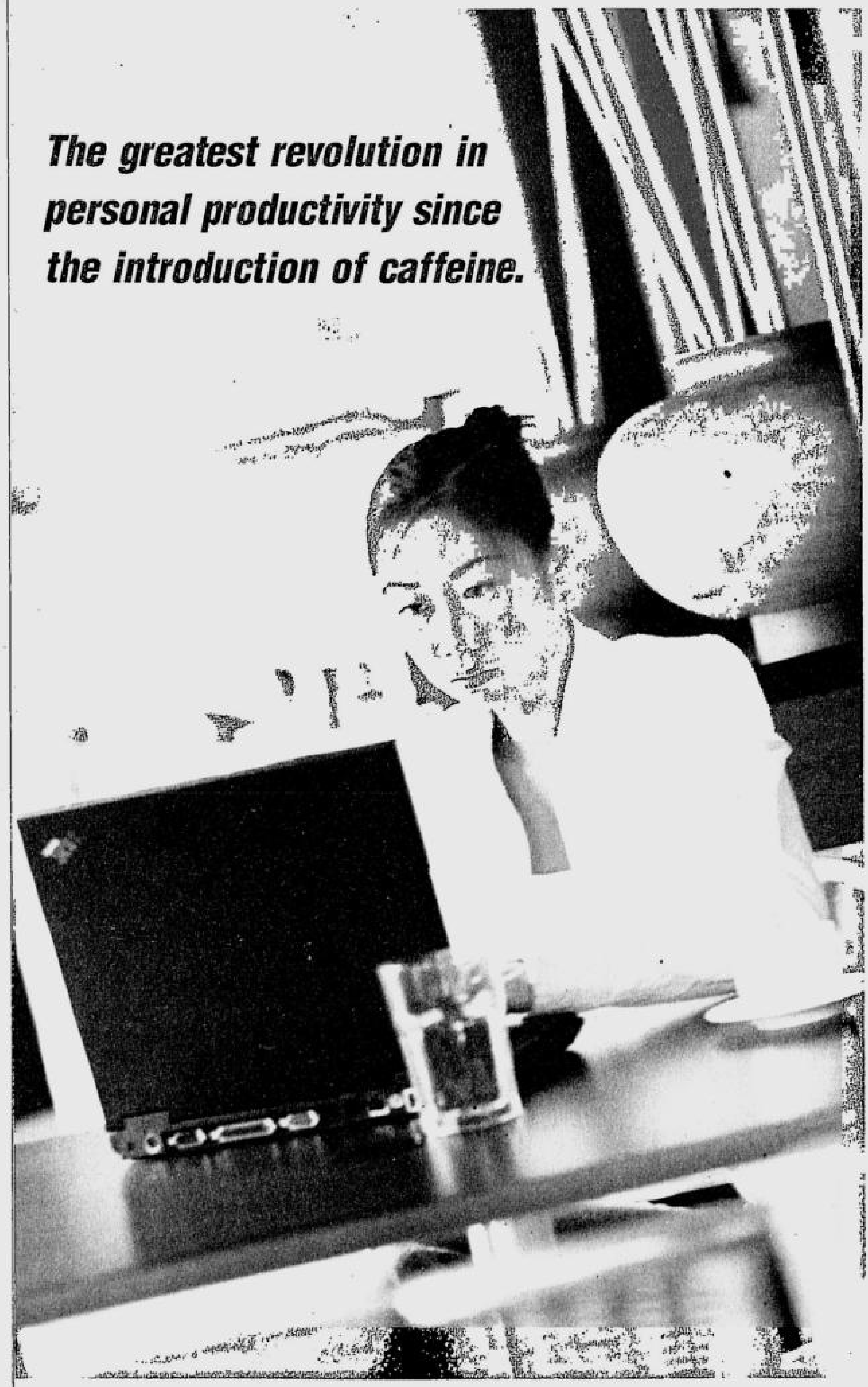
Equal level

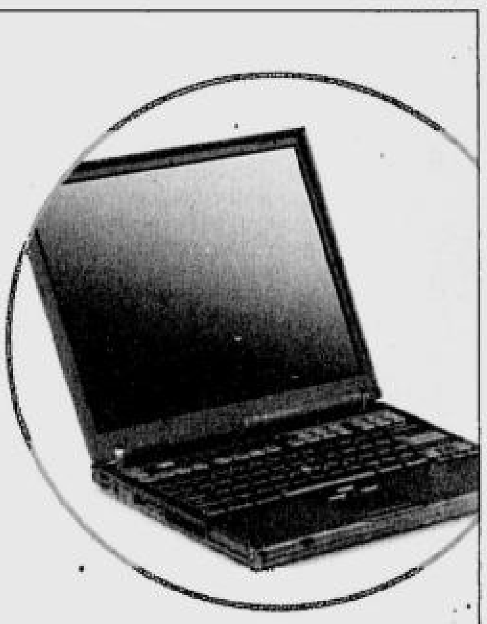
EMV's introduction will help put the Philippines on an equal level with countries like Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Malaysia, Singapore, Australia and France. Villa-Real said, "This move towards EMV compliance will put Philippine banks at par with international standards and achieve global interoperability as MasterCard will provide global acceptance and technology to BancNet."

Global interoperability means that BancNet, through Mondex and MasterCard, can now enjoy built-in multi-currency support, carrying up to five different currencies simultaneously. Like MasterCard's other global brands, Mondex will assist BancNet with a single solution architecture and brand acceptance around the world.

By combining high security, person-to-person functionality, immediate value transfer and multi-currency capability, Mondex enables BancNet consumers to tap into important, new markets and meet the increasing need for secure, convenient, low-value Internet payments.

As to how Filipinos will embrace EMV, Villa-Real said, "Eventually, people will adopt this technology. It's just a matter of putting in the right applications that they will find convenient. You can never go wrong if you implement a technology that will bring greater convenience to consumers. That technology is EMV."





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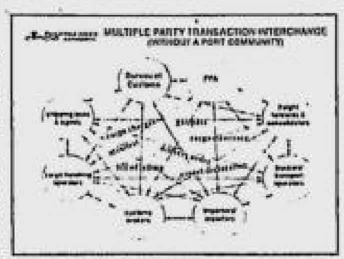
PPA at 29: Cruising to the Future

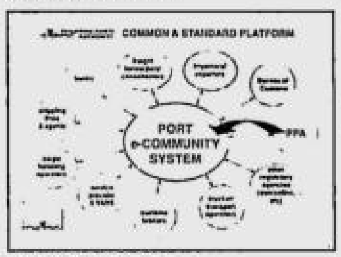
PPA Steers e-Port User Community to ICT Age

Authority over Philippine ports used to be split between the Bureau of Customs which was responsible for revenue collection, and the Bureau of Public Works which took care of port and harbor maintenance.

As domestic and regional trade increased, the need for better integration and coordination in port operations, cargo handling, port development, and port maintenance became greater. By the 1970s there were already 591 national and municipal ports plus 200 private ports scattered all over the country necessitating the need for long-range planning and rationalization of port development. The need gave birth to the Philippine Ports Authority on July 11, 1974.


MULTIPLE PARTY TRANSACTION INTERCHANGE (WITHOUT A PORT COMMUNITY)
PPA

FROM THIS SYSTEM



TO THIS SYSTEM

The PPA and its partner agencies like the Bureau of Customs, shipping lines & agents, cargo handling operators, customs brokers, importers/exporters, freight forwarders and consolidators, truckers and other port service providers are all part of the so-called port community. Over the years the day-to-day transactions within and among them are characterized by a tangled web of hard copy and electronic documents required in moving cargo and ships. This transaction environment is characterized by multiple data entry, numerous copies of the same documents such as bills of lading submitted to almost everyone else, and each port user entity maintaining individual & separate databases.

The need for better integration and coordination has been the PPA's Holy Grail. Following the trend of other government agencies and private sector organizations looking into information and communications technology (ICT) for effective solutions, the current management, under the leadership of General Manager Alfonso G. Cusi, is implementing the PPA MIS Computerization Project. The ICT project was a precursor to something bigger and would ultimately change the way ports users transact business with PPA.

The time has come

This year, the PPA is embarking on one of its most ambitious technology initiatives to date, the e-Port or "electronic port" system. The aim of e-Port is a more efficient and easily accessible web-based facility for the electronic submission of port documentation required by PPA for port clearance and vessel and cargo discharge/load activities.

This means that instead of the tangled web that the current document submission resembles, it will be replaced by the e-Port facility as a common and standard platform for shipping lines to submit the vessel notice of arrival, application for berth/anchorage and domestic cargo manifest.

With the current inclination for globalization and the breaking down of tariffs, there is no better time to improve and streamline the biggest artery of trading, the ports.

"Our goal here is to provide a basic web-based platform that will facilitate secure port documentation submission initially in PPA-managed ports like North Harbor ," says PPA General Manager Alfonso Cusi.

Why we need it

There are numerous benefits to implementing the e-Port System.

Among these is to leverage upon the ease of use of the Internet in transacting with frontline port services agencies like PPA. This is in accordance with the Electronic Commerce Act that mandates the promotion & development of electronic commerce by government agencies.

Another benefit is to enhance operational efficiency in PPA-managed ports where the new PPA computerized system for port operations management will be implemented during the next three years. This will be made possible through the transparent integration between e-Port and port operations information since electronic documentation submitted in e-Port actually constitutes the basis for subsequent billing of port dues and cargo charges.

The e-Port System will operate in a secure environment utilizing electronic digital certificates for registered users thereby ensuring data accuracy and integrity and reducing the need for manual, repetitive data entry.

Where we are

PPA will jumpstart the e-Port System this year as a first step leading to the improvement of technology standards in information processing for port operations.

In time for PPA's 29th Anniversary, PPA sails to the future with the launching of the e-Port system.

"Right now it seems far off but we've planned this System carefully and we believe in it. We're on track so far and we're looking forward to the day when e-Port will ultimately put PPA at the focal point of future seaports trade facilitation," concludes GM Cusi.

SECRETARY LEANDRO R. MENDOZA

Excerpts from Message on the Occasion of PPA's 29th Anniversary

"Over the years, the PPA has played its crucial role in sustaining our country's economic advancement and facilitated the closer integration of our national community by providing adequate port facilities and efficient port services. The expeditious movement of people, goods, and resources relied heavily on your services.

In this regard, as in the past, DOTC will always count on PPA as a reliable partner in the task of nation-building and infrastructure development. While many favorable things have already been written and spoken about the recent celebrated projects of PPA, allow me to still briefly add my own.

My personal experience as part of President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's party, which traveled the Strong Republic Nautical Highway or SRNH, is a testimony of PPA's contribution to the country's infrastructure build-up in terms of making available the necessary nodes that now seamlessly link the entire archipelago using more cost-effective alternative modes of transport.

This sits well with the President's agenda of lowering logistics cost and fostering domestic tourism to pump prime our economy, boost domestic consumption and generate beneficial multiplier effects in the other sectors of the economy.

PPA records will show that the President's program on this has produced noticeable results in the increase in the inter-island flow of trade and movement of sea passengers, with cargo and passenger traffic increasing by about 7% and 12% of sea-traveling passengers led to the introduction of marked improvement in amenities and refurbished passenger vessels that have also been recently deployed by the domestic shipping operators.

In laying the infrastructure support, I am happy to note that PPA, as it inches closer to its third decade of existence, is putting premium to constructing port facilities and providing the corresponding services that are more responsive to the actual needs of its clientele.

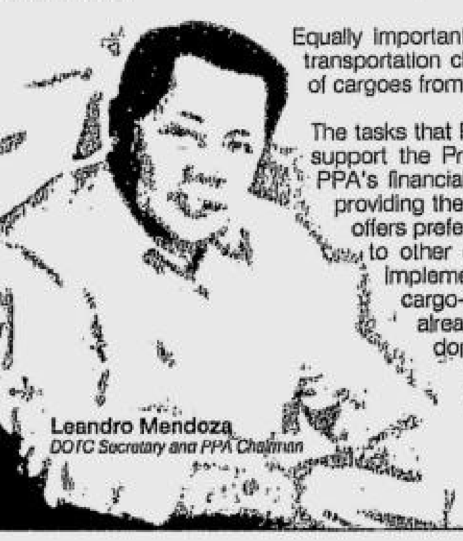
However, allow me to emphasize that the development of our national ports system should respond to the demand for faster vessel turnaround, for suitable facilities to berth larger vessels to achieve economies of scale in the transport chain, and for basic amenities at passenger terminals.

The development of our ports system should likewise consider the requirements of new alternative shipping technology and support the government's development strategies for specific sectors, including agriculture and tourism.

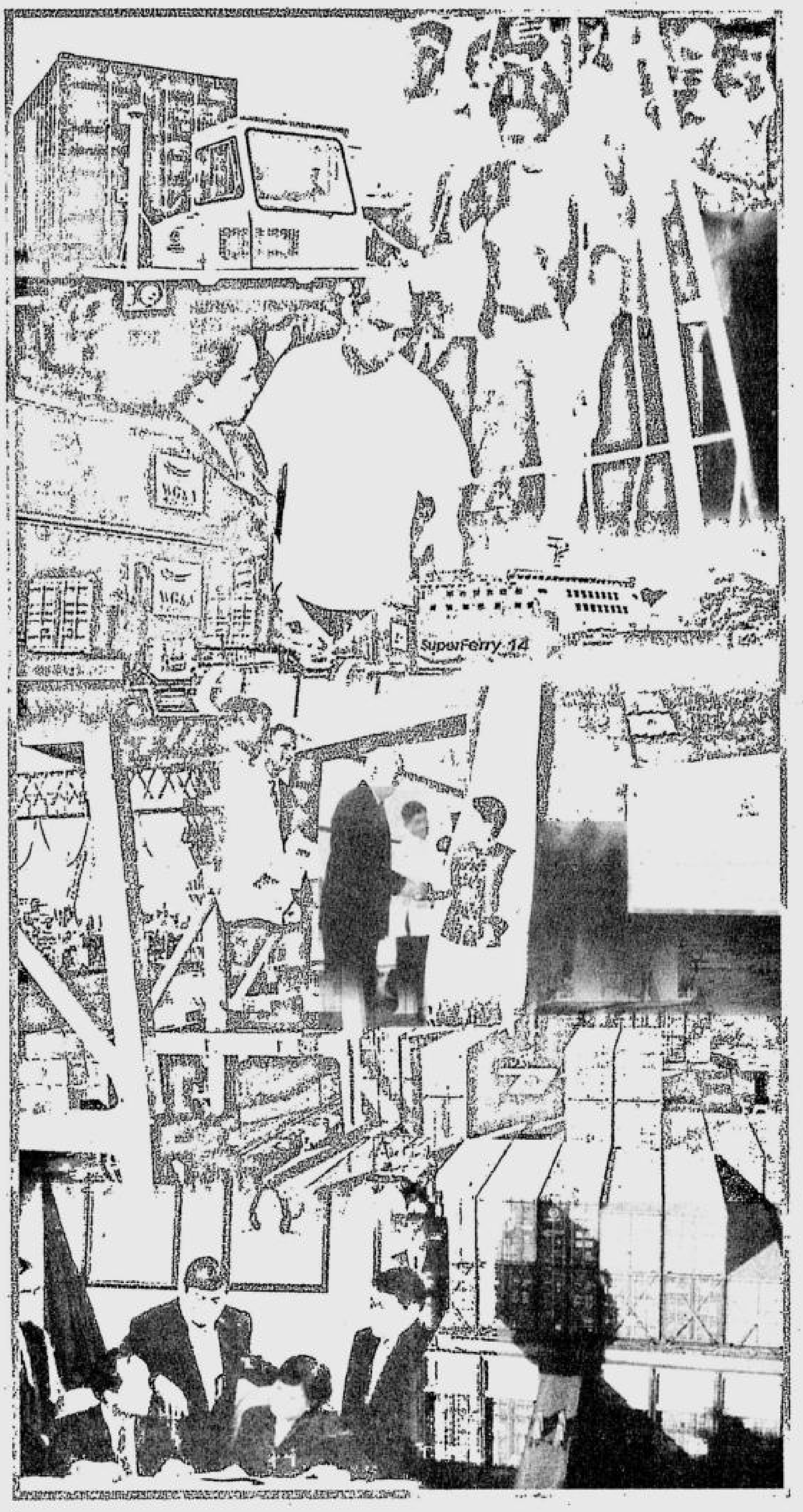
Equally important, we should continue to promote intermodalism in the transportation chain, to bring about greater efficiencies in the movement of cargoes from port to inland destination and vice versa."

The tasks that PPA has committed to undertake to fulfill its mandate and support the President's economic agenda, admittedly bear heavily on PPA's financial resources. Amidst the backdrop of increasing costs of providing these, PPA is boldly set to implement a new set of tariff that offers preferential rates to RO-RO cargo. Of course, this is in addition to other cost-reduction measures, which PPA has already been implementing like pegging PPA's share from the revenue of cargo-handling operators and suspending the implementation of already-approved increases on wharfage and usage fees for domestic cargo.

DOTC commends PPA for these as it expresses full support to its strategy of pursuing computerization to improve revenue collection and service delivery."



Leandro Mendoza
DOTC Secretary and PPA Chairman



The Strong Republic Nautical Highway: Linking the Islands, Empowering the Nation

SURROUNDED by deep and luxuriously fertile bodies of water which are excellent for naval trade and travel, the Philippines has finally taken steps to fully harness its maritime potential and help stimulate the dreary phase of the domestic economy which is still recovering from the paroxysm of the worldwide recession.

To maximize the potential of its 17,500 kilometers of shoreline, the government has set out on a journey that will launch a thousand new opportunities for the country's coastal industries as well as varied trade and tourism possibilities.

This bold and visionary undertaking is called the STRONG REPUBLIC NAUTICAL HIGHWAY.

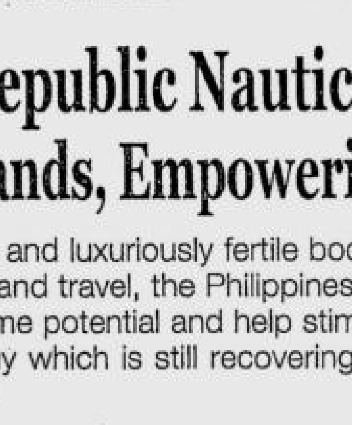
The SRNH is part of the vision of President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo and DOTC Sec. Leandro Mendoza to bring the islands closer to each other and lower the cost of transport for goods and commodities, particularly those from the rich food baskets of Mindanao to the consumer markets in Luzon.

Philippine Ports Authority General Manager Alfonso G. Cusi said the SRNH will serve as an alternate combined road and sea link connecting Luzon, the province of Mindoro, and the Panay group of islands to the Zamboanga peninsula.

The SRNH is envisioned to open new markets in the provinces, promote trade among the islands and provide better opportunities for our small scale entrepreneurs, thus, empowering the people in the countryside for a stronger republic.

"The nautical highway has bridged that vision of efficiency and competency into reality. Not only did this project addressed the need for a swifter mode of water transport, it has also linked closer the islands in the western part of the country despite the huge expanse of water that separates them," GM Cusi said.

President Macapagal-Arroyo herself said during the inauguration of the nautical highway last March that the developmental undertaking will hasten the exchange of food commodities from one underdeveloped town or province to another, helping ensure food security at the national, regional and grassroot levels.



"My dream of a roll-on roll-off port link archipelago has broken ground."
---President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo

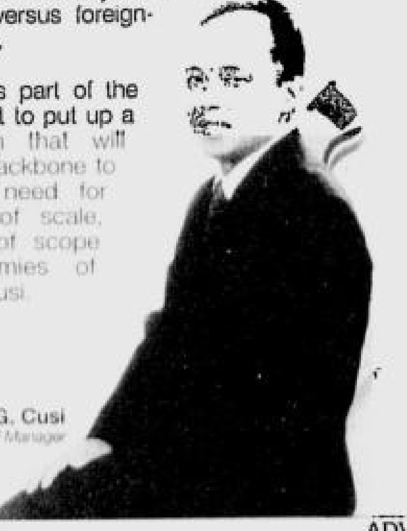
Serving as the backbone of the completed SRNH are the Eastern Seaboard RO-RO Transport System (Luzon, Samar, Leyte, and Mindanao); the Western Seaboard (Luzon, Mindoro, Panay, Negros, Mindanao); the MIMAROPA RO-RO Systems (Palawan, Coron, Mindoro, Romblon, Marinduque, and Luzon); Trans Visayas RO-RO System (Palawan, Cuyo, Panay, Guimaras, Negros, Cebu, Siquijor, Bohol, and Leyte); the Southwestern RO-RO Transport System (Mindanao, Basilan, Jolo, and Tawi-Tawi); and the Northern Seaboard (Batanes to Currimao).

The new western seaboard route will provide an efficient and shorter way from Mindanao to Luzon cutting short by 8 hours the normally 24-hour travel time from Luzon to Mindanao.

Consistent with the Arroyo administration's efforts of forging ahead a stable supply of food at affordable prices, the nautical highway will also stimulate the entry of commodities to erstwhile uncharted and deficient areas.

The nautical highway could even reduce prices of agricultural products for urban consumers and would cut agri-farm input costs, which has rendered the industry less competitive versus foreign-based goods.

"SRNH forms part of the PPA blueprint to put up a port system that will serve as a backbone to satisfy the need for economies of scale, economies of scope and economies of care," said Cusi.



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8 Res'l Condo/Unit 1-B Villa Nautica Condo, Coral Cmpd, Punta Engano, Pt Lapu Lapu City* / FA-60
Min Bid - P1,968,000

9 Res'l Condo/Unit 3-B Villa Nautica Condo, Coral Pt Cmpd, Punta Engano, Lapu Lapu* FA-173.30
Min Bid - P6,340,000

10 Res'l Condo/Unit 7-B Villa Nautica Condo, Coral Pt Cmpd, Punta Engano, Lapu Lapu* FA-177.75
Min Bid - P6,640,000

11 Res'l Condo/Unit 4-B Villa Nautica Condo, Coral Pt Cmpd, Punta Engano, Lapu Lapu* FA-173.30
Min Bid - P6,756,000

12 Res'l Condo/Unit 2-B Villa Nautica Condo Coral Cmpd, Punta Engano, Lapu Lapu* FA-179.30
Min Bid - P6,982,000

13 Res'l Condo/Unit 1-3 A/B Eastpt Villa I Condo Coral Pt Cmpd, Engano, Lapu Lapu* FA-343.50
Min Bid - P15,354,000

14 Res'l Condo/Unit 4-A/B Villa Marina Condo Coral Pt Cmpd, Punta Engano, Lapu Lapu FA-363.05
Min Bid - P15,975,000

15 Lot/Lot 2-C-6-A, Nat'l Rd, Busay / LA 900
Min Bid - P774,000

16 H&L/Lots 16,17,18 Blk 1, Francisca Vill,Labangon/ LA 578/FA 422
Min Bid - P6,564,000

* Includes Club Share

BUTUAN

17 Lot/L11 B36, Alviola Vill Ampayon /· LA 317
Min Bid - P89,000

18 Lot / Lot 2, Brgy Port Poyohan/ LA 5,960
Min Bid - P487,000

DAVAO CITY

19 H&L / L28 B14, Topaz St,Marfori Hgts Subd LA 300 / FA 249
Min Bid - P2,071,000

20 Agri Lot/L596-A-B-K-3-D Nat'l Hi-way Int Bud-bud/ LA 20,393
Min Bid - P2,597,000

21 Agri Lot/L596-A-B-K-3-C Nat'l Hi-way Int. Bud-bud/ LA - 22,585
Min Bid - P2,877,000

22 Agri Lot/L596-A-B-K-3-A Nat'l Hi-way Int. Bud-bud/ LA - 20,107
Min Bid - P2,562,000

23 Agri Lot/L596-A-B-K-3-B Nat'l Hi-way Int. Bud-bud/ LA 22,789
Min Bid - P2,903,000

PAGADIAN

24 H&L /Lot 901 Zulueta cor Jamisola Sts. Sta Lucia/LA 190/FA 305
Min Bid - P1,755,000

ILOILO CITY

25 Lot/L1150 B Calle de la Rama, Monica LA 383
Min Bid - P843,000

BRGY PANGI (NOW) GENES VIEJO, PASSI, ILOILO

26 Lot/ L1 B2 / LA 265
Min Bid - P133,000

27 Lot / L2 B2 / LA 243
Min Bid - P122,000

28 Lot / L3 B2 / LA 256
Min Bid - P128,000

RES'L / AGRI'L LOTS

29 Lot / L4 B2 / LA 276
Min Bid - P138,000

30 Lot / L1 B3 / LA 230
Min Bid - P115,000

31 Lot / L3 B3 / LA 220
Min Bid - P110,000

CAPIZ

32 Agri/Fpond/Lot 2768-A Tico, Panay, Capiz LA-100,017
Min Bid - P1,040,000

ILIGAN

33 Lot/Lot 1 Blk 13 Camague / LA 5,162
Min Bid - P1,550,000

TAGBILARAN

34 Lot/L 3260-A, C P Garcia North Ave, Taloto / LA 5,500
Min Bid - P6,149,000

35 Lot/Lot 1521-B-9-B Int Calceta St, Cogon LA 400
Min Bid - P100,000

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY

36 Lot/ Lot 15, Brgy. Balulang / LA 9,302
Min Bid - P1,820,000

37 Agri Lot /L# 3070, Bo. Canitoan/LA - 50,076
Min Bid - P2,350,000

COMMERCIAL

DAVAO CITY

38 Lot/ L519-A-2-A-6-A-2-B Laurel Ave/LA 537
Min Bid - P4,502,000

39 Lot/ L519-A-2-A-5-D, JP Laurel Ave/ LA 600
Min Bid - P5,032,000

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY

40 Lots w/ Bldg/ Lots 1138-B & 1148-A-2, J Pacana, Puntod, Port Area / TLA - 587
Min Bid - P4,000,000

CEBU

41 Ind Lot w/ Whse/Ofc Bldg/Lot 1718-B Casili-Cubacub Rd Casili (Tawason), Mandaue LA - 4,000
Min Bid - P7,223,000

42 2 Sty Motel/Lot 5994 D Happy Valley Road Happy Valley Subd LA 1,463 / FA 964
Min Bid - P9,088,000

43 Lot/L3 Cabahug St Cebu Port Area Cebu City / LA-1,100
Min Bid - P11,000,000

44 Lot/L4 Cabahug St Cebu Port Area Cebu City / LA-1,100
Min Bid - P11,000,000

45 Lot/L5 Cabahug St Cebu Port Area Cebu City / LA-1,100
Min Bid - P11,000,000

46 Lot/L6 Cabahug St Cebu Port Area Cebu City / LA-1,100
Min Bid - P11,000,000

47 Lot/L1 Kaoshiung cor F Urot Sts Cebu Port Area, Cebu / LA-1,415
Min Bid - P14,150,000

48 Lot/L2 Cabahug cor F Urot Sts Cebu Port Area, Cebu / LA-1,415
Min Bid - P14,150,000

49 Lot/L7 Cabahug cor Osmeña Blvd Cebu Port Area / LA-1,416
Min Bid - P14,160,000

50 Comm'l/Ind'l Lot w/ Bldg/Ofc/ Lot 75-F AS Fortuna St., Banilad, Mandaue City LA-2,960 / TFA-1,468
Min Bid - P32,041,000

51 Comm'l/Ind'l Lot w/ Bldg/Ofc/Lots 4759, 4761, 4768 & 8279-A Cebu S Road, Basak, Pardo* / LA - 6,210
Min Bid - P32,000,000

52 Lots 7624-C-1-B & 7624-C-3-Colon St, Pahina Central, Sambag* LA-660.70/TFA-2,797
Min Bid - P53,203,500

* currently on lease

MISAMIS ORIENTAL

53 Ind'l Lot w/oil mill & ofc bldgs/Old Nat'l H-way Luz Banzon, Jasaan TLA-5,464 / TFA-1,589
Min Bid - P8,572,000

FIXED 13% INTEREST PA FOR FIRST 3 YEARS, 15% INTEREST FOR NEXT 12 YEARS. CWT IS FOR THE BUYER'S ACCOUNT. JUST BRING P20,000 (CASH OR MC) SHOW MONEY TO QUALIFY TO BID FOR EACH PROPERTY. ***Unionbank may, at anytime, withdraw any of the properties listed above prior to auction. All properties for sale are on an "AS IS WHERE IS" basis.

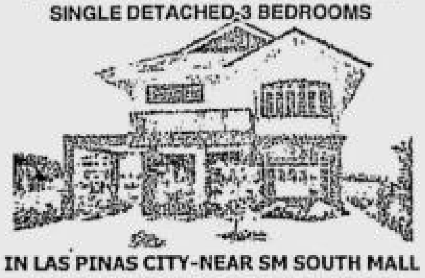
REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

LAS PINAS

SOUTHVILLE

SINGLE DETACHED-3 BEDROOMS



IN LAS PINAS CITY-NEAR SM SOUTH MALL
2 TO 3 BEDROOM UNITS
TAKE YOUR PICK!
Full Aircon Package OR Kitchen Showcase
RESERVATION P 20T
DISCOUNTS AS HIGH AS 30%
ON ALL CASH / BANK FINANCED SALES
AGENTS ARE WELCOME TO APPLY
TELS:5653162/8061509/8053157/8062260
PILAR DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Providing Homes to Generations

COMM'L/RESD'L

FOR SALE / LEASE

ANTEL SEAVIEW TOWER C
147.8 sqm., 3BR 2 parking
Roxas Blvd. (near Hyatt Hotel)

ANTEL PLATINUM
97.38 sqm., 2BR 1 parking
Valero St., Salcedo Vill., Mkti.

PALMRIDGE POINTE LOT
Block 12, Lot 15, 397 sqm.
Talisay, Batangas

ORCHARD LOT
(w/ membership)
705 sqm., fairway
Block 30, Lot 4, Phase I
Dasmariñas, Cavite

TAGAYTAY COFFEE PLANTATION
Brgy. Tolentino, 1 hectare

COMMERCIAL LOT
363.60 sqm., P. Burgos St.,
Pasay City

For inquiries, you may call:
634-7809 / 831-7803
(0919) 231-1983

OFFICE SPACE

Prime Office Space For Lease
(Fully furnished / Ready to move-in)
10th Flr., DPC PLACE Bldg. 2322 Chino Roces Ave., Makati City - 223.14 sq.m.
Tel. 889-99-99
look for Jinkee

HOUSE & LOT

LAS PINAS

LAS PINAS/BACOOR
2-4 BRS, 1-3T&B, 2Storey
P5,000 to Reserve/No loan req't
874-0486 874-0487

MALABON

TUGATOG nr S'daan Cal la120 new bung 2BR grge 285-8238

MANILA

Best Offer Rush Sale 2Hse 3Sty 2Sty 100m² Lot No Fld P5M Neg T-7428324

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

LAS PINAS

COMM'L/RESD'L

OFFICE SPACE

HOUSE & LOT

MANILA

LEON GUINTO NEAR LA SALLE Bnew/3Sty/3BR/3TB/grge P3 295M 8903461 loc 34

MARIKINA

Provdent Lot/Hses 9331640

Twnhse 2-4br 800K-1.5K TERMS/BNK LOAN AVAILBLE 7216214 / 0917-8112716

PARANAQUE

2Sty Mansion LA-720sm FA-505 Nice 0919-3437382 • 822-3308

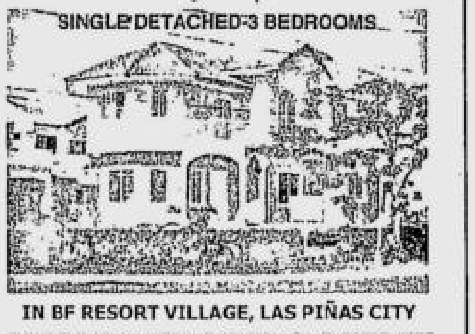
REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

LAS PINAS

Sunpointe

SINGLE DETACHED-3 BEDROOMS



IN BF RESORT VILLAGE, LAS PIÑAS CITY
SINGLE DETACHED & DUPLEX
TAKE YOUR PICK!
Full Aircon Package OR Kitchen Showcase
RESERVATION P 20T
DISCOUNTS AS HIGH AS 30%
ON ALL CASH / BANK FINANCED SALES
AGENTS ARE WELCOME TO APPLY
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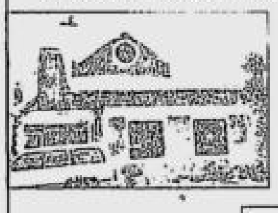
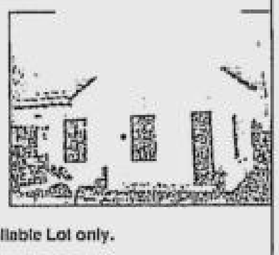
(via South Super Highway exit to Susana Heights)
Tels BETH-817-6522 • 815-2975 • 894-0301 (weekdays office hours)
CORA-560-0962 (weekend office hours) E-mail pmv@mindgate.net.ph



1. 2 Bedroom with Loft with optional 3rd BR
2 BR, 2 T&B
LA – 97 sq.m.
FA – 94 sq.m.
PRICE : P1,850,000



2. SOFIA
2 BR, 1 T&B
LA – 112 sq.m.
FA – 45 sq.m.
PRICE : P1,331,021

Also available Lot only.
BANK & IN-HOUSE FINANCING ALSO AVAILABLE.

LOT

RIZAL

Town & Country Heights Phase 2
San Luis, Antipolo City
The Home of La Salle College of Antipolo
Limited inventory!
promo offer *
- 5 years interest free
- own your lot for as low as P5,800 monthly
- 150 sq.m. lot size P2,500/sq.m.

* good until Sept. 2003 only
For inquiries, please call
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MAKATI

LIMITED PRIME LOTS very near Makati Avail thru in-house, bank or Pag-IBIG 8373033/34

PARANAQUE

GREENHEIGHTS 09178364966

PASIG

Hse cor lot w/existing business magnolia cor peach Greenwood Exec. Vill Pasig City LA-254m² FA-164m² P3.8M Neg 641-9573

V. VERDE HOUSES 634-9500

BAGUIO

2BR bung nr PMA 9125847

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

LAS PINAS

MUNTINLUPA

LOT

RIZAL

HOUSE & LOT

CAVITE

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Near SM-Bacoor
D/P 12 months to pay
Inhouse; Pag-ibig,GSIS; SSS or Provident
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QUEZON CITY

1167 SQM 18T/SQM 8 GOLDSTAR WHITE PLAINS T8447647

ACROPOLIS MORNING SUN 423m² 2sty 3BR Den P17M near Park T6337601-03

4BR 1.3M Nova 2855129

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

TAGAYTAY
House & Lot
- FA 100 & 125 sqm
- LA 517 & 161 sqm

For LOT only
*min area 171 sqm
- Flexible Terms

FARM LOTS
Trece Martirez, Cavite
- min. area 500 sqm.
- only P950/sqm.
- 5 years to pay

Call: Mr. Richard Tee
0917-503 5107
046-517 5123

QUEZON CITY

BNEW 4BR4TB 2CG Guard Pool Garden Mindanao P3.1 & Up ★ CTHall Elegnt P4.7 371-3996 • 0917-7957850 dbo

LALOMA BULUSAN ST. 240sqm 6585158, 6581676 Baby

LGV 1000m² 9M Neg. Nr Ateneo Nice Call 645-3731

Loyola Hts Lot/Hse 9331640

PROJ.6 BNEW 9263307

•Sikatuna 9210255 / 9219967

Sikatuna LA425 6M 4392105

ST. IGNATIUS VIL.cor. 400m² 6BR 14M 0919-2221766

TIERRABELLA H/L 931-5553

WHITE PLAINS 632m² w/2storey house 5BR 4car grge big lawn for swimming pool. P20M negotiable. Pls call 9114705/4649 & look for Tita or Chris 0919-4014983

RIZAL

Antipolo 9425958 Arnel

H/LS STUD/2BR 500K-850K TERMS/BNK LOAN AVAILBLE 7216214 / 0917-8112716

HOUSE & LOT FOR SALE 470M² T648-5039

BATANGAS

AYALA PROPERTY AT STO TOMAS BATANGAS 364 SQM HOUSE N LOT 2.5M NEG 500T DP BAL 2 YRS TO PAY W/O INT 0918-9424538

CAVITE

HL4Sale 40m² CL8942158 Wenni

LAGUNA

RUSH! PACITA I NR GATI 1.5M NEG 807-0634 / 870-513

RUSH SALE HSE N LOT 120 sqm loc. a Kapayapaan Ville Canlubang Laguna 0917-898680 7520893

Tpark 3T/mo (049)8392301

VALENZUELA

Apt.4 Sale w/Hse&Lot Marulas Val. 080 LA:400m² FA:60m 890-9718 0917-540903

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

1.6M C5 Nr The Fort 12T/mo. or 3Yrs No Int. or 10% D.P. LIPAT AGAD 3-5BH 15min Fr Mkti 0917-8169849

3 SALCDO 3BR 10M 888-500

Buendia Tower 1Bdr 44sqm 2.1 8231817 0917813947

• D' RESIDENCES • D' COLUMNS • STD 1,2,3 BR TERM 0916-444447

Star Plaza Studio 35sqm 0917-4303478 • 437-9371

MANILA

NR LA SALLE TAFT Bnew Twnhse/3stry/3br/3tb/grg P3 295M 8903461 loc 3

1-2-3BR nr La Salle TAFT 894-4516 / 0917-985366

nr UST,Espana Tower 6391694 • 0917-8102903

MANDALUYONG

RUSH SALE I 2br frnt poo PRESEL Condo 200T CASH asume bal. drect buyer 928982

WANTED TO BUY

TRANSFORMER brand new or used but in good running condition:

Range of Acceptable Capacity:

1. Capacity : 5 MVA - 40 MVA
2. Primary Voltage : 69 KV 3 phase 60 hertz
3. Secondary Voltage : 13.8 KV or 4160 volts
4. Dry or immersed type

Pls. contact:

Florentino Jumaquio : 09189108201
Ruben Aganon : 09189108200
Luis Fadrigo : 09178124072

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

BUILD YOUR ESTATE
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NATIONWIDE LISTINGS
810-3556 • 0916-6192933 LEO

CONDO/TWNHSE

OTHER AREAS

TAGAYTAY
COUNTRY VILLAS
SERVICED VACATION
RESIDENCES
P1.6 Million 15 yrs. to pay
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11F V. Madrigal Bldg.
6793 Ayala Ave.
813-3192;
813-3193; 813-3690
James - 635-0128
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Tessa - 633-6191

MANILA

READY FOR OCCUPANCY
Manila Condo Units
surrounded by picturesque
landscaped greenery,
very near the university belt,
business & commercial areas
of Cubao, Ortigas & Manila
782 1373 / 74

PASIG

Tropical
living in a
Mediterranean
inspired architecture
2BR Condo for as low
as P12.7T/mo.
656 1706 / 1882

PARANAQUE

3.8M neg. la68.5m² fa120m² 3BR 3TB w/grge 1 maids quarter 410-2073-Jimmy

900T Condo Nr Airport
10% DP P9T.mo or 2Yrs No INT. AYALA PROJECT STUDIO-3BR ACROSS SM SUCAT 0917-8313226

QUEZON CITY

1BR FF NEAR ABS CBN 7313170

2BR CUBAO 1.2M 9120679

MAHOGANY PLACE 10th St cor J. Rodriguez Ave New Manila QC Cel#0919-8667521 and 0918-9281953

Panay Ave furn w/Prkg 2BR/TB 56m² 2.9M neg 09189233502

PENTHOUSE RFO P9.7M 09208309744/6396864

Rushl Fernandina 88 180sqm 4.5M Neg 3br 2tb 0917-8143792

Sct. Madrinan 3Stry T'hse 4BR 4TB S-Furn • 645-2216

Thse nr UP 2BR 9125847

SAN JUAN

★ GREENHILLS ★
INFRONT XAVIER BACK ICA
Soon to build 5 Storey 2 & 3brs Few units only For resevation 722-1832

APARTMENT

PASAY

Apt 4 Sale 8737589 Wennie

LOT

LAS PINAS

278 SQM. LOT
ANGELA VILLAGE II, TALON
LAS PINAS 0920-2107913

METROCOR Back of SM 254sqm 4800/m² 800-4771

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

CONDO/TWNHSE

PARANAQUE

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Ready for Occupancy
ISABELLE GARDEN
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TOWNHOUSES FOR SALE
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as low as P1.5M
Your retreat fr the city's heat & noise, only a few walk to a bistro, coffee shop, gym, internet cafe
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P1,926M
2 BR Condo Unit
* a taste of Spanish living
* w/in mins fr Mkti & Fort
* well-landscaped gardens
* s pool, tennis court, bar
641 6500

MANILA

928m²@35K LaSalle/St.Scho DirectBuyers 0917-5259510

MARIKINA

STA.TERISITA VILL. 286m² Call 9330092

MUNTINLUPA

Katarungan Village Muntinlupa 168m² P700 (Neg) 807-6878/775-0147

PARANAQUE

516 SQM. LOT
SOUTH BAY VILLAGE, SUCAT
0920-2107913

-BF HOMES PQUE 204 SQM F. GUERERRO ST
-SALITRAN DASMARINAS CAVITE 600 SQM FRNT OF GROVE SUBDIVISION
CALL 0917-8322352 776-9008

BFP (3)280M² @ P4000 8725750

TAHANAN 280m² 888-5007

PASIG

COMM'L LOT ORTIGAS AVE EXT. 416M² P13M (0916)257-7978

QUEZON CITY

CAPITOL HILLS GOLF 504 sqm Call 9312022 / 9312079

Greenview Executive Village Fairview,QC 266m² P3.5M (Neg) 807-6878/775-0147

GRNMDOWS 800/900m² 4121825

★ LA VISTA ★
1200@12T 1300@14T •more Also w Hse: 17M 18M 20M

★ AYALA HTS ★
425 500 600 725 1100@18T also w Hse 18M 20M 38M

★ LYLA G. VILLAS ★
1000-2000 Nr Gate Phs-I Also w Hse 18M 20M 28M
R.P. DUTERTE
912-0943 • 0917-8990943

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

QUEZON CITY

St Ignatius 600m² 4121825

RIZAL

Cainta Grnpark 207m² @ 8T Call 533-5730 Nr Z Big Malls

FOREST HILLS ANTIPOLO
580m² Prime & Corner Lot Overlooking Golf Course in Laguna D'Bay P32M nego. call 920-6251/ 0917-8401478

Mission Hills 303sqm
0917-4303478 • 437-9371

Valley Golf Antipolo 690 sqm Each Corner Adjoining Call Juliet 09177360194 8394576

RUSH SALE
562 sq Vac Lot loc. Sysna St Calumpang Binangonan Rizal Call 7520893•0917-8986809

OTHER AREAS

Beverly Hills 09178177172

OTHER PROVINCIAL

2500m² good for Comm'l Mangatarem, Pangasinan Call Wilson / Beth 780-2383

ISLAND,21hec w/mango trees good 4resort,farm 0919-2221766

LAOAG CITY nr market 123m² Boots9514317/0916-4563432

BAGUIO

Nr Green Valley 23has 4 sale or joint venture 9330092

BATANGAS

50,000m² Lot - Sto. Tomas Batangas - Price Nego Tel. 8105223 Fax 8403598

Sto. Tomas, Batangas 1.3Ha. P14M 0920-9034812

CAVITE

209sqm 8,500 Grand Park Place beside Makro Cavite D. Buyer No. 5610864 or 0916-5959053

Dasma 800sqm 09178177172

LOTS BELOW MRKTVAL IMUS GRNDPRK NR MAKRO,RBNSNS AGUI HWY. WE CAN BUILD 7216214 / 0917-8112716

Tagaytay Southridge
Near Clubhse Main Road 240m² Pallas Athena Exe. Vill. Imus Cavite. Adj LOTS 261m² & 150m² • Tel. 641-3812

LAGUNA

Fully Fenced Title Land
6851 sq m with 500 sq m Covered Bldg. at Brgy. Lawa, Calamba, Laguna with 3Phase Electricity PT&T Connection. Deep Well w/2 Submersible Pumps, Employees Quarters Best for Factory/Warehouse
Pls. Call 043-3181310
or Text 0917-5043033 Linda

PROVINCIAL

BATAAN resd'l lot Cablaben Mariveles 150m² 90T
PANGASINAN L785 Raymundo Subd 3Bo Banlucaling Mangatare 240m 90T
09192224304 / 8070865 Loreen

★TAGAYTAY LOTS★
Along H-way low dp/mo. 240m²-up Coldest Spot T658-8704 Tolle

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

VARIOUS AREAS

ARBORTOWNE
20ha. 1st class village at the heart of Valenzuela City resd'l lots 150m²up ready for housing
•Fully Developed
•MWSS Meralco PLDT
•Entire village fenced
•24hrs security guards
10%DP bal 1-8 to pay

MIRA-NILA
433m²@P6,500/m²
568m²@P8,000/m²
941-0226•941-2873

BUSINESS SPACE

43 12TH Ave Cubao w/3Car Grge Inqr Ofc hrs 9116329 May; Sunday 6206235 Tina

BUILDING

4-STRY BLDG
ORTIGAS AVE SJ 180M
810.3556 0916.6192933 LEO

Club & Rest. Paniqui, Tarlac all in P45M 721-5309

COMM'L / RES BLDG NR CITY HALL J. RIZAL ST., 807-0534

MEMORIAL LOT

HERITAGE 7120038/0270/0229

HMLYANG PIL 1.7M 9316443

AGRICULTURAL LANDS

RANCH 450has w/ Windmill Fully Fence along Hiway Pls call 0917-9588055 0919-3649096/0916-3320373

FARM/FISHPEN/RAWLANDS

Lipa 10.9 Hectares Near Malarayat • 0917-3955738

LIPA CITY 4HAS FARM RES BLDG PIGRY 0917-5287456

PLARIDEL,BULACAN 1501m² P1M BENG 9314466 /9124573

SUGARLAND TUY BATS 9.7HAS 0917-5287456 929-4937

WANTED TO BUY

Looking for Space Bar/ Resto QC 09163741571

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

COMMERCIAL

MAKATI

4rooms 3T&B U/D 897-6115

QUEZON CITY

NR. ATENEO
Xavierville cor B. Gonzales brand new comm'l resd'l office nr Camp Aguinaldo Llanar Bldg cor 10th Ave. 9216741•9216738•2590066

HOUSE

MARIKINA

3BD 1TB w/Tel 8T/mo. 426-4569

PARANAQUE

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UNDER INT'L JUDGES
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(New Zealand)

Sunday,
July 13, 2003

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8:30 AM	- Judging
Ring 1	- Non-Sporting & Herding Group
Ring 2	- Herding & Non-Sporting Group
12:00 NN	- Lunch Break
12:30 PM	- Registration
1:00 PM	- Judging
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PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ROBERTO A. CRUZ was extrajudicially settled among his heirs with waiver of shares as per Doc. No. 109; Page No. 23; Book No. V; Series of 2003 under Notary Public Atty. Epifanio P. Recana of Rodriguez, Rizal (PDI-June26,July 6&13,2003)

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OF MANILA
NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION
BRANCH 34

IN THE MATTER OF CORRECTION
OF ENTRIES IN THE CIVIL REGISTRAR
ROSE G. LAI also known as RUBY ROSE G.
FRANKE, CHRISTOPHER G. LAI also known
as CHRISTOPHER G. FRANKE and CHRISTYAN G. LAI
also known as CHRISTIAN G. FRANKE,
Petitioners
-versus- SP. PROC NO. 03-106858
THE LOCAL CIVIL REGISTRAR OF MANILA,
Respondent.
x-------------x

ORDER

This is a verified petitions of Rose G. Lai a.k.a. Ruby Rose G. Franke, Christopher G. Lai a.k.a. Christopher G. Lai and Christyan G. Lai also known as Christian G. Franke praying among others that after due notice, publication and hearing an Order be rendered directing the Civil Registrar of Manila to correct/change the following entries in the petitioners Certificate of Live Birth

A. Certificate of Live Birth of petitioner Rose G. Lai be corrected, to wit
1. Entry No. 3 which states Rose (first) Gracila (middle) Lai (last) should be substituted with the name Ruby Rose (first) Gracila (last) with the entry as to the middle name to be left in blank
2. Entry No. 17 – the name of petitioner's mother which states Ruby G. Lai should be substituted with the name Ruby G. Gracila
3. Entry No. 23 – which marked "yes" as legitimate be deleted and remarked "x" inside the box which indicates "NO" legitimate
4. Entry No. 24 – which states the alleged date and place of marriage of parents should be deleted

B. Certificate of Live Birth of petitioner, Christopher G. Lai should be corrected, to wit
1. Entry No. 3 – which states Christopher (first) Gracila (middle) Lai (last) should be substituted with the name Christopher (First) Gracila (last) with the entry as to the middle name to be left in blank
Entry No. 17 typewritten name of petitioner's mother Ruby Lai should be substituted with the name Ruby G. Gracila
Entry No. 23 – which marked "yes" as legitimate be deleted and remarked with an entry "x" inside the box which indicates "NO" legitimate
Entry No. 24 – date and place of marriage of parents should be deleted

C. Certificate of Live Birth of Petitioner Christyan G. Lai should be corrected as follows
Entry No. 3 – which states Christyan (First) Gracila (Middle) Lai (Last) should be substituted with the name Christian (First) Gracila (Last) with the entry as to the middle name to be left in blank
Entry No. 17 typewritten name of petitioner's mother which states Ruby Gracila Lai should be substituted with the name Ruby G. Gracila
Entry No. 23 which marked "YES" as legitimate should be deleted and remarked "x" inside box which indicates "NO" legitimate
Entry No. 24 the alleged date and place of marriage of parents should be deleted

Finding the Petition to be sufficient in form and substance, let the petition be set for hearing on August 8, 2003 at 8:00 o'clock in the morning before this Branch at Room 546, 5th Floor, Manila City Hall. All interested parties are hereby notified of said hearing and are ordered to show cause why the petition should not be granted.

Let copy of this Order be published at the expense of the petitioner once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Manila to be chosen thru raffle pursuant to P.D. No. 1079.

Furnish the Office of the Solicitor General and Civil Registrar of Manila copies of the Petition and Order.

SO ORDERED.
Manila, Philippines, June 23, 2003.

(Sgd.) ROMULO A. LOPEZ
Judge

(PDI – July 6, 13 & 20, 2003)

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Deadline for submission of application: July 23, 2003
Written qualifying examination: AFPMC Auditorium at (8:00 a.m.) on July 26, 2003 (Saturday)

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OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF CLINICS
Chief Gustilo and Sgt Largo)
Telephone Nos. 426-2701 loc. 66-33 / 921-1748

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2. Latest photographs / two - 2"x2" picture
3. **Board Rating - 2 xeroxed copies
4. **Transcript of Records - 2 xeroxed copies
5. **Certificate of Internship - 2 xeroxed copies
6. **Certificate of non-pending case (NBI) - 2 xeroxed copies
7. Folder long - 2 pcs.
8. Recommendation from Chief, Surgeon of Major Service Command/The Surgeon General, AFP for AFPWSSU's and Area Commands (APPLICABLE FOR MILITARY DOCTORS ONLY)

**(Authenticated)

Only those applicants who where able to comply with the above requirements will be allowed to take the examination. Applicants should be single and not more than - thirty (30) years old Height - 5'2" or 157.48 cms (Female), 5'4" or 162.56 cms (Male)

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# 5 Ring Rd., LISP II, Brgy. Lamosa, Calamba, Laguna

POSITION	AGE	SEX	QUALIFICATIONS
GA Manager / GA Asst. Manager	35-40	F	College graduate, HR practitioner w/ good leadership skills, at least 5 yrs experience, hard working, result-oriented, honest, willing to work long hours, w/ good communication skills, computer literate (MS Office), good moral character, analytical and a team-player
Logistics Manager/ Asst. Manager	30-35	M	At least 2 yrs experience in handling logistics particularly in the area of import and export procedure
Accounting Staff	20-28	F	Acctg. Graduate, w/ at least 2 yrs experience in a manufacturing company w/ a computerized system, had handled bank reconciliation and recording of sales and receivables, can work under pressure w/ minimum supervision, willing to work long hours
Sales Representative	20-33	M/F	College graduate, w/ at least 2 yrs experience in a manufacturing set-up, pro-active, hardworking, honest, willing to work long hours, good communication skills, computer literate (MS Office), good moral character, knows how to drive.

Interested applicants, pls. bring your resumé with 2x2 photo From Monday to Friday, 1 to 3 p.m.

PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC ZONE AUTHORITY
Almeda Building, Roxas Boulevard
Corner San Luis St., Pasay City
Tel. Nos. 551-9587 / 891-6444
www.peza.gov.ph

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. The Philippine Economic Zone Authority (THE OWNER) invites all interested bidders to Apply for Eligibility and if found to be Eligible, to bid for the Supply and Installation including Testing and Commissioning of Networking Equipment for PEZA Head Office.

2. Description of Project
   Approved Budget : P1.30 Million
   Source of Fund : PEZA

   SCOPE OF WORK
   a. Testing, reconfiguration and commissioning of 2 existing units of Cisco Router 2509.
   b. Supply, Installation and testing of Structure Cables –
      - Gigabit backbone – PEZA building – 2nd to 6th floors with termination to the Network Data Center (NDC)
      - Cat5e for horizontal cables
      - Network Data Center (NDC) will use Cat6 cables
   c. Supply, installation configuration, testing and commissioning of Edge Switches and Core Switch.
   d. Provision of technical support and training to the operation of the systems and equipment.

3. Eligibility Documents may be secured upon presentation of BAC Certificate of Registration and payment of a non-refundable fee of FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (P500.00) from the BAC Secretariat 3/F Almeda Building, Roxas Boulevard corner San Luis St., Pasay City from 17 to 23 July 2003, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Mondays to Fridays only. Eligibility Documents must be submitted to the BAC Secretariat not later than 3:00 pm of 30 July 2003. All applicants will be informed in writing of their Eligibility or Ineligibility.

4. Time and date of the Pre-Bid Conference and the Deadline for the submission and Opening of Bids will be indicated in the Bidding Documents that will be available to Eligible Bidders.

5. PEZA reserves the right to reject any application or bids or any part thereof, to waive any defect or informality therein without assuming any obligation whatsoever to offset expenses or losses the Applicant and/or Bidder may incur in the preparation of Eligibility Documents and of the Bids, and will entertain only such Bid/s established to be the most advantageous to the Government.

THE CHAIRMAN
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI–July 13 & 20, 2003)

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The Livelihood Corporation

THE LIVELIHOOD CORPORATION
7th Floor, One Corporate Plaza Bldg.
845 Arnaiz Avenue, Brgy. San Lorenzo
Makati City

MAHARLIKA LIVELIHOOD COMPLEX
Chanum and Zandueta Streets, Baguio City

INVITATION TO BID
MLC COMFORT ROOMS AND CARPARK CONCESSIONS AT MLC BLDG., BAGUIO CITY

We are pleased to inform the general public that the Maharlika Livelihood Complex (MLC) located at the corner of Chanum, Zandueta and Kayang Streets, fronting Session Road at Baguio City has slots for Comfort Rooms and the MLC Carpark for Concession.

The Livelihood Corporation (LIVECOR) hereby invites interested locators to bid for the concession of comfort rooms and carpark at the MLC building.

The Instruction to Bidders containing the written guidelines to Pre-qualify and Bid and information/details on the available space/area in the building, location, minimum monthly concession rates, required security deposit and other salient matters are available with our Makati City and Baguio City offices at the above addresses from July 06 to July 18, 2003.

The LIVECOR reserves its right to accept or reject any or all bids.

For more information please contact MS. VANGIE T. MAURERA at Tel. No. p(074) 443-4927 or MS. DELIA C. ARAÑA at Tel. No. 817-0439

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

(PDI--July 13, 2003)

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OBITUARIES

SUNDAY, JULY 13, 2003

RATE
P245 per column centimeter
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINE
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Monday to Sunday
12:00 noon
Day before publication

"I am the resurrection and life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever believes in Me will never die." **John 11:25-26**

ILDEFONSO M. BUENASEDA, M.D.

U.S.T. MEDICINE '52

Peacefully joined his Creator on July 11, 2003.

His loving wife, **Tinding**;
children **Dr. Leny** and **Mr. Rene**, **Dr. Vick** and **Dr. Jun**, **Dr. Rina** and **Dr. Edel**, **Dr. Nini** and **Atty. Bong**;

grandchildren **Mark** and **Chris**; **Lorraine**, **Jenny** and **Alyssa**; **Sandra** and **Trina**; **Thea**, **Miko** and **JB**;

and other relatives and friends request the readers to pray for his eternal repose and the happiness of his soul.

His body lies in state at the Imperial Chapel, La Funeraria Paz, Araneta Ave., Q.C. It will be transferred to Siniloan, Laguna on July 15, 2003, Tuesday afternoon.

Interment will be on July 17, 2003, Thursday at the Buenaseda Family Mausoleum in Siniloan, Laguna.

So sadly missed, so lovingly remembered, God saw you getting exhausted, when a cure was not to be. So he wrapped his arms around you and whispered "Come to Me". You didn't deserve what you went through. So he gave you rest.

In Loving Memory

on the **25th Death Anniversary** of our beloved

JUDGE ROQUE M. VERZOSA

of Tagudin, Ilocos Sur

who joined his Creator on July 13, 1978

His family requests relatives, friends and the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul and to remember him in their prayers.

Holy Masses will be offered on July 13, 2003 in his memory at the following churches:

Immaculate Concepcion Parish, *Antipolo City*	7:00 AM
Immaculate Concepcion Parish, *Marikina City*	7:00 AM
St. Paul Novitiate Church, *San Fernando, Pampanga*	7:30 AM
Metropolitan Cathedral, *San Fernando, Pampanga*	8:00 AM
Shrine of Our Mother of Perpetual Help, *Baclaran*	6:00 AM
Sacred Heart Parish, *Kamuning, Quezon City*	7:00 AM
St. Peter Parish, *Commonwealth, Quezon City*	6:00 AM

I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
John 14:6

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring... **INQUIRER OBITUARIES**

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
❶ Copy of Death Certificate
❷ Any identification document (I.D.).

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS • DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS • FREE OBIT DESIGN

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

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12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City; Tels. 715-1025; 715-1031; 715-1027
ARLINGTON EAST THE GARDEN CHAPELS
C. Raymundo St. cor. Mercedes Ave., San Miguel Ave., Pasig City
Tels. 747-8599; 747-8609 • Telefax 641-1760
AUREA QUIOGUE FUNERAL HOMES
243 A.B. Fernandez Ave., Dagupan City, Pangasinan
Tels. (0785) 522-3451; 522-2128; (0917) 434-9976
CAPITOL MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
1305 G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City
Tel. 732-0309; 732-1095
CEBU ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Cebu Branch: A.S. Fortuna Street, Banilad, Mandaue City, Cebu
Tels. 346-2543; 346-2601
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City; Tels. 231-0721; 231-3192
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Camus Ext. cor. J. Abad Santos, Davao City; Tels. (082) 227-1201; 227-1258
DAYAO FUNERAL HOME
#2 Bayani St., Galas, Quezon City
Tels. 740-2683; 781-3705; 781-3688; 413-9400; 715-5594
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965 Del Monte Ave., Frisco, Quezon City: Tels. 416-3231; 4162373
ERIC SANTIAGO MEMORIAL CHAPELS
26 Bayanbayan Ave., Concepcion I, Marikina City; Tels. 942-6044; 475-1177
FLORESCO FUNERAL HOME
219 Gen. Luna St., Concepcion, Malabon, Metro Manila
Tels. 2812963, 2813034; 2810522
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Santo Entierro cor. P. Burgos St., Lourdes Sur, Angeles City
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865 J.P. Rizal St., Poblacion, Makati City; Tels. 890-3556; 899-8191
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Tels. (044) 764-0281; 678-0266; (0917) 895-0603
FUNERARIA SAMSON
145 Bayan Luma, Imus, Cavite; Tels. (046) 471-3375; 471-2675
GARDEN OF MEMORIES MEMORIAL PARK
Calsadang Bago, Pateros, Metro Manila; Tels. 642-6181 to 82
HERITAGE PARK
Bayani Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila
Tels. (DL) 845-2341 to 42; (TL) 845-2334 to 38 loc. 110/112
HOLY GARDENS MEMORIAL PARK
Third Level, Unishoppe Complex
Quezon Ave., Angono, Rizal; Tels. 651-1711; 651-0737
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Dr. A. Santos Ave., Sucat, Parañaque; Tels. 820-1592; 825-9947; 825-8635
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Tels. 941-3196 to 98; 941-3676; Telefax 941-3577
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Tels. 283-1613; 273-8922
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Arellano St., Dagupan City
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Tels. 826-1376; 826-9682; (0915) 712-1220
SANTUARIO DE SAN ANTONIO PARISH
Forbes Park, Makati City; Tel. Nos. 843-8838/30, Fax No. 843-9223
SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE PARISH
East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City; Telefax 724-4139; 725-2044
ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGOURI PARISH
Magallanes Village, Makati City. Tels. 852-8228; 852-7284
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ST. PETER FUNERAL HOMES
296 Quezon Ave., Quezon City; Tels. 372-5084; 410-9286/87
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OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

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CLASSIFIEDS

PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER
East Avenue, Quezon City

is now accepting applications for

Academic Year 2004

FELLOWSHIP
(with specific requirements)

I. **Pediatric Cardiology**
- 3 years Residency in General Pediatric accredited by PPS
- at least passed written examination for Diplomate in Pediatrics by the PPS

II. **Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery**
- 5 years Residency in General Surgery accredited by PCS
- must have passed certifying examination given by the PBS (Board eligible/Diplomate)
- at least qualified to take PBS certifying examination and the submission of satisfactory results of the in-service training examinations

III. **Anesthesiology**
- 3 years Residency in General Anesthesia accredited by PBA (Board eligible)

IV. **1 Year Clinical Research Fellowship** for Non-Invasive Cardiology, Invasive Cardiology, Cardiac Rehabilitation, Critical Care Medicine, Electrophysiology, Peripheral Vascular Medicine, Pediatric Invasive & Non-Invasive Cardiology Thoracic & Cardiovascular Surgery and Pulmonary Medicine. (Research protocol is required)
1 Year Fellowship Program for Radiology, Nuclear Medicine, and Biological and Clinical Laboratory. (Research protocol is required)

RESIDENCY (QUERT not required) fill up application at DOH for matching
(for Medical Board Passers)

I. **Radiology**
II. **Nuclear Medicine**
III. **Biological and Clinical Laboratory (Pathology)**

General Requirements for Application for Fellowship & Residency:
1. Medical Diploma
2. Transcript of Records with the General Average
3. Itemized Board Rating
4. Three (3) Letters of Recommendation (coming from different Doctors specifically the Training Officer &/or Director of the previous training programs)
5. Four (4) pcs "2x2" picture colored
6. Certificate of Residency in required specialty
7. Specialty Board Certificate in required specialty

Please address your communications to;

JOSE A. YULDE, M.D.
Assistant Director
Office of Education and Research
Philippine Heart Center
East Avenue, Quezon City

** Deadline for submission of application is on August 31, 2003*
** Academic Year 2003 starts on January 1, 2004*

For further inquiries, please contact Ms. Carmela M. Ocsalon (cp# 09196239902) or Ms. Cleopatra Q. Palencia (cp# 09163021735) with Tel. Nos. 925-2401 locals 3234, 3235, 3236 & 3237 and Telefax 926-9622, or you can email to oer@phc.gov.ph

(PDI - June 29 July 6, 13 & 20 2003)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PHILIPPINE COCONUT AUTHORITY
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City Tel. No.: 928-4501 to 09
Cable Address: "Philcoa" P.O. Box 3386, Manila, TIN # 000724616

NOTICE OF SALE

"As Is, Where Is"

There will be a **SPECIAL PUBLIC AUCTION SALE** to be conducted at the Philippine Coconut Authority, Diliman, Quezon City on **July 30, 2003** of the hereunder fertilizers aggregated into one (1) lot. Said fertilizers shall be available for inspection at the PCA Regional Office in Lucena City and warehouse in Tiaong, Quezon starting **July 14, 2003.**

Type of Fertilizers		Quantity/No. of Bags	
Ammonium Sulfate	(AS)	30,380 bags)	
Potassium Chloride	(KCl)	11,400 ")	
Superphosphate	(SP)	23,780 ")	One Lot
Salt	(NaCl)	7,970 ")	
Dolomite	(Dol)	4,040 ")	
Total		77,570 bags more or less	

Sealed bids on an "As Is, Where Is" basis in the prescribed form shall be received together with their Stand-by Bidder's Bond equivalent to ten Percent (10%) of the total bid amount in Cash, Manager's Check, or Cashier's Check until 2:00 p.m. on the abovementioned date at the Procurement Operations Division, 2nd Floor or at the Executive Lounge, 8th Floor, R & D Building, Philippine Coconut Authority, Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City and shall then and there be opened and publicly read.

Pre-bid Conference : **July 23, 2003 at 2:00 p.m.**
Registration Fee : Php 2,000.00 (non-refundable)
Bid Bond : 10% of Bid Price

(Sgd.) **DENNIS J. CALUB**
Chairman, Committee on Appraisal and Auction of Undelivered SCFDP Fertilizers

(PDI - July 11, 12 & 13 2003)

Department of Health
RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR TROPICAL MEDICINE
Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, Muntinlupa City
Tel. Nos. 807-26-28 to 32 Fax No. 842-22-45

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND BID

BAC-ITB-NO. 2003-05

The Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) hereby invites all interested bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for the installation of Air Handling System for Negative Pressure Isolation Room (total of 8 rooms).

Only duly licensed firms, who carry this line of work/services/ product are qualified to participate in this bidding.

Bidding documents can be secured from Mr. Noel Mandac or Ms. Mae Marie Hernandez at the Property & Supply Department, Research Institute for Tropical Medicine, upon payment of non-refundable fee of One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00).

Schedule of Activities

a.)	Issuance of Bid Documents	July 10-23, 2003 (9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)
b.)	Submission of Eligibility Requirements	July 24, 2003 (9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)
c.)	Pre-bid Conference	July 30, 2003 1:30 p.m. Lecture Room 1, Training Center
d.)	Submission and Opening of Sealed Bids	August 6, 2003 1:30 p.m. Lecture Room 1, Training Center

Only Pre-qualified Bidders shall be allowed to attend the Pre-Bid Conference. Attendance to Pre-bid conference is a must and failure to show up shall be deemed to have waived his right to participate.

The BAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to annul the bidding process anytime prior to the award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligation to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds for the RITM's action.

(Sgd.) **SALVACION R. GATCHALIAN, M.D.**
Chairman, Bids & Awards Committee

(PDI – July 13 & 10, 2003)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of the Interior and Local Government
Philippine Public Safety College
PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE ACADEMY
Camp General Mariano N Castañeda, Silang, Cavite
Tel. No. (049-545-5939), Telefax (049-545-5940)
Website: www.pnpa.edu.ph

PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE ACADEMY CADET ADMISSION TEST
AUGUST 17, 2003

QUALIFICATIONS: Male of Female who are physically and mentally fit for training; 17 to 22 years old; Single; At least High School graduate or a candidate for graduation by March 2004; Height: 162.5 cm for male and 157.5 cm for female. **TEST CENTERS: 001**-Mariano Marcos State University, Laoag City; **002**-Regional Training School 1, Aringay, La Union; **003**-Cagayan State University, Carig, Tuguegarao City; **004**-Regional Training School 2, Cauayan, Isabela; **005**-St. Mary's University, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya; **006**-Pampanga National High School, San Fernando City; **007**-Nueva Ecija University of Science & Technology, Cabanatuan City; **008**-Tarlac State University, Tarlac City; **009**-PNPA, Camp General Mariano N. Castañeda, Silang, Cavite; **010**-PNTI, Camp Vicente Lim, Mayapa, Calamba City; **011**-Regional Training School 4, Camp Nakar, Lucena City; **012**-Pablo Borbon Memorial Institute of Technology, Batangas City; **013**-Bicol College of Arts and Trades, Naga City; **014**-Bicol University, Legaspi City; **015**-Regional Training School 6, Bakyas, Bacolod City; **016**-University of Iloilo, Iloilo City; **017**-Cebu State College of Science & Technology, Cebu City; **018**-Central Visayas Polytechnic College, Dumaguete City; **019**-Leyte Institute of Technology, Tacloban City; **020**-Western Mindanao State University, Zamboanga City; **021**-Mindanao Polytechnic State College, Cagayan de Oro City; **022**-University of Southeastern Philippines, Davao City; **023**-Regional Training School 12, General Santos City; **024**-MSU-Iligan Institute of Technology, Iligan City; **025**-PPSC/NPC, Fort Bonifacio, Makati City; **026**-Ramon Magsaysay National High School, EDSA, Quezon City; **027**-Philippine College of Criminology, Sales St., Sta. Cruz, Manila; **028**-Baguio City National High School, Baguio City; **029**-Regional Training School-CARAGA, Surigao City; **030**-Urios College, Butuan City; **031**-Notre Dame University, Cotabato City. Applications are available at Local Government Units, Police/Fire/Jail Offices and select schools & colleges. **SUBMIT APPLICATION TO:** REGISTRAR-PNPA, Camp Castañeda, 4118 Silang, Cavite.

— — — — — — — — — CUT HERE — — — — — — — — —

APPLICATION FORM
P N P A Cadet Admission Test

Attach Latest Passport Size Picture

TYPE OR PRINT ALL ENTRIES
Test Center Preference Code:______

(Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Name)

(Complete Mailing Address) (Zip Code)

Date of Birth:____________ Age ________ Weight.(kgs)________ Civil Status ________
Place of Birth:____________ Sex ________ Height. (cms)________

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT:
Course:____________ Year/Date Graduated:________
School:____________
Address:____________

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT:(Office/Address/Position)____________

MAIL THIS APPLICATION TO: **THE REGISTRAR**
Philippine National Police Academy
4118 Camp General Mariano N Castañeda, Silang, Cavite

NOTE: This form can be reproduced!

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The following persons are hereby notified of their overdue payments on their installments for the purchase of the following real estate properties, namely:

NAME	PROPERTY	PAYMENT(S) DUE
Raul Ramirez	Palmridge Pointe, PI B19 L24 TCT#44308	4,777,852.63
Gerard Ramiro	Palmridge Pointe, PI B20 L4 TCT# 44317	830,903.06

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(PDI–July 13 2003)

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[tuesday]
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[friday]
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(PDI--July 13, 2003)

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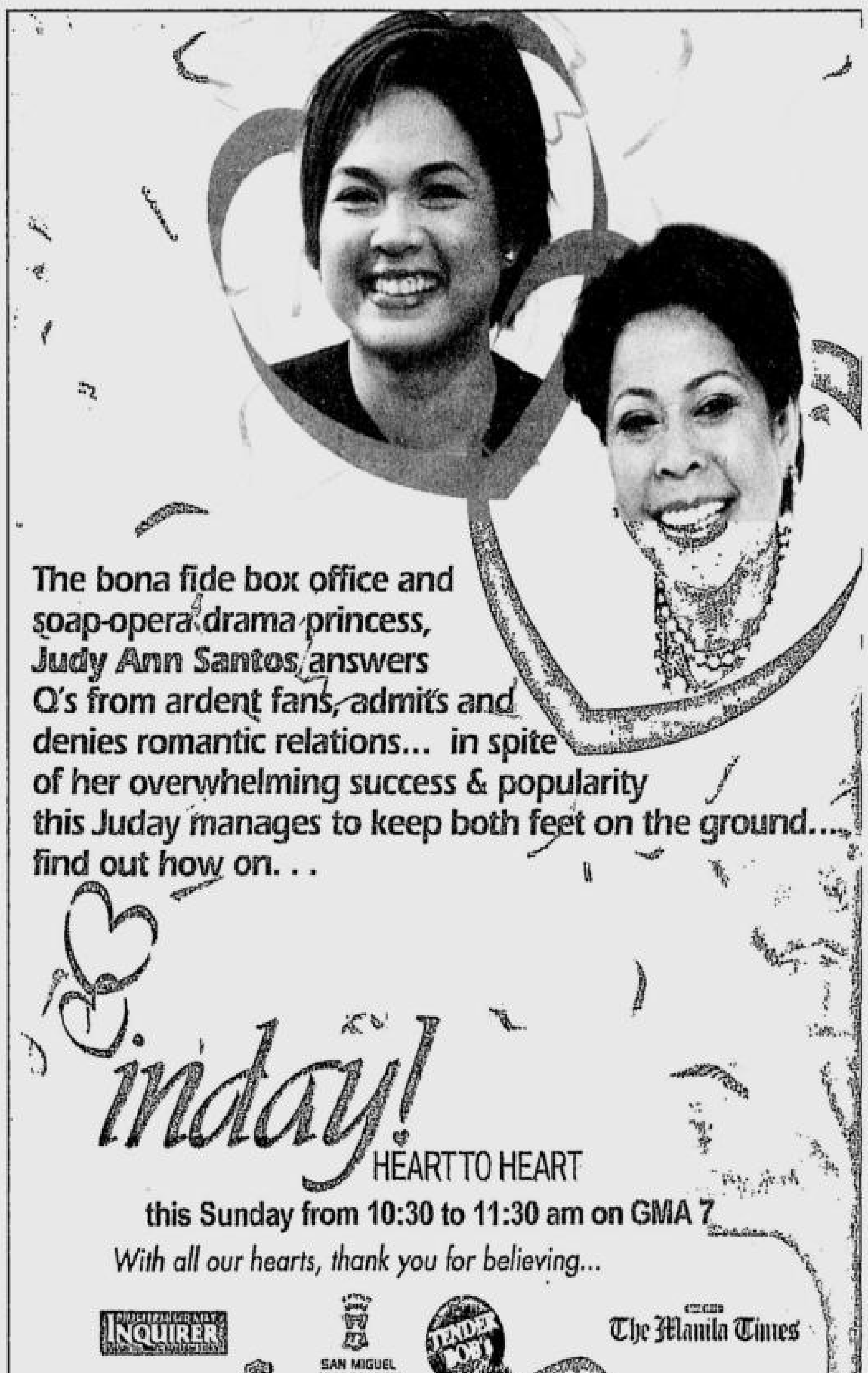
(PDI–July 5 and 13, 2003)



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Light gives glow and extra cash to seaweed farmers

By Julie S. Alipala
PDI Mindanao Bureau

HAVING fluorescent lights remain a phenomenon for Bongao folks.

BONGAO, TAWI-TAWI—When some 300 Badjao and Samal households, engaged in seaweeds farming and fishing, here asked for light, they got power supply.

When they requested that they be given a good source of income, they were granted livelihood.

Twenty-seven-year-old Ben Abdulmunap of Barangay Pababag had always dreamed of seeing the day his village would glow at night like other villages.

Five months ago, Abdulmunap watched with delight as the newly installed fluorescent lamp flickered and then lit up his house.

Since then, he enjoyed the lamp's glow from 5 p.m. onward.

"I never experienced having our own fluorescent lamp. We are still adjusting to this kind of light, but at least, we no longer have to live in the dark corners of this island," Abdulmunap says.

Abdulmunap is one of the seaweed farmers here, who joined and become an active member of the Barangay Renewable Energy Community Development Association (Brecda) organized in February 2002 by the Alliance for Mindanao Off-Grid Renewable Energy (AMORE).

AMORE installed four solar panels and three battery chargers in Abdulmunap's village and nine other areas in this island. AMORE spent about P1.5 million for the project.

Rodrigo Cabrera, chief of AMORE, tells SundayBiz that the other villages where residents get free electricity were Lagasan, Tongsena, Mandulan, Dalu-dalu, Sapaa, Lak-it-lakit, North and East Patyang Bohe and Tambunan.

Like Abdulmunap, Abdulhil Ali of Barangay Dalu-dalu, reckoned that there were other uses for the energy they have come to enjoy.

So he decided to come up with a simple livelihood project to improve the quality of their produce and increase production that could mean extra cash for the family.

AMORE liked the idea and Cabrera says they held a series of meetings with the communities.

Cabrera says two projects have been conceptualized.

These are the Seaweeds Quality Enhancement Project for the seaweed farmers and a Fish-Processing project for the fishermen.

Francis Mansilla of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) Social Fund said they would assist the villagers by tapping additional funds from the World Bank.

Mini-hydro

He says some projects that could be put up include a mini-hydro plant in Languyan Island to generate power for Tawi Tawi.

"They can also put up ice plants to preserve their daily catch," he says.

Karl Arbon, deputy director of Quedan Credit Corp. (Quedancor), assured them of financing.

Each farmer or fisherman is allowed to have a loan for as much as P50,000 and "if they are good in remitting payments, we will provide them with a credit card that they could also use for medical or emergency needs."

Arbon says Quedancor would also allow borrowers like fishermen and seaweed farmers to transact their business using a checking account.

Inocencio Bolo, one of the brains behind the Masagana 99 project of the Marcos administration, said the interest of the people here to improve their lives would greatly help in the realization of the projects.

And the prospects are bound to become even brighter for the 265,938 people in Tawi Tawi.

Reynaldo Reynaldo, AMORE project manager, says they expect 24 other barangays to be lit up by August.

"Before the year ends, another 29 barangays or a total of 1,890 households would be energized," Reynaldo says.

Added mission

AMORE's mission, Cabrera said, is not only to promote peace and prosperity in the poverty-stricken ARMM.

"Equally important, if not more so, is to ensure that these systems will be sustained and will fully realize their promised socioeconomic benefits, through well-chosen, high-impact programs that will empower the host communities to run and maintain the systems themselves," Cabrera says.

Smart Philippines product manager Jack Ignacio says his company offers its satellite phone services to enhance the marketing and business transaction of the villagers.

"It will give fishermen and farmers the chance to deal directly with their buyers using our unit," Ignacio says.

Tawi-Tawi, the smallest province of the ARMM, produces 85 percent of the country's seaweed (*agal-agal*) supply, which is processed into pure carageenan for export to Europe, Korea, the United States, Japan, Australia, Thailand, Indonesia and China.

Cabrera says the province is "one of the country's largest suppliers of farmed *Eucheuma cotonii*, a highly priced seaweed."

DRIED fish from Tawi-Tawi

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Editor **Louie C. Camino**

BONNEVIE says she doesn't want a debate with Solis "because she's old already."

Ms D: I'm fed up with Lolit

By Nini Valera

TALENT manager Lolit Solis is being blamed over the raging word war on talk TV of actresses Dina Bonnevie and Lorna Tolentino.

"Lolit has said a lot of things about me," said Dina on Friday. "I'm already fed up with the way she talks about me.

"I just don't want to get into a debate with her because she's old already," Dina added in Filipino.

Ms D, 41, was referring to how the issues of alleged role snatching between her and Lorna in "Mano Po 2" and "Moral Ngayon," and how Lolit waded into the fray, defending Lorna whom she manages.

"When Lolit was the one they talked to, that's when they lost the project," Dina said. "When they were just talking to Lorna, it

MISS D/ C5

SOLIS

DID YOU KNOW...

Liposuction expert and dermatologist **Vicky Belo** was seen early this week chatting with ABS-CBN TV host **Ces Oreña-Drilon** in a restaurant at The Loop, inside the ABS-CBN compound. Ces goes to Belo's clinic for her Obagi skin care.

While they chatted, in came sexy star **Aubrey Miles**, one of Belo's image models, with Katya Santos and Angela Velez. So Rosanna Roces, Belo's former signature model for her clinic, is really out of the picture.

Joey Marquez apologizes for 'kris-nest' episode /C2

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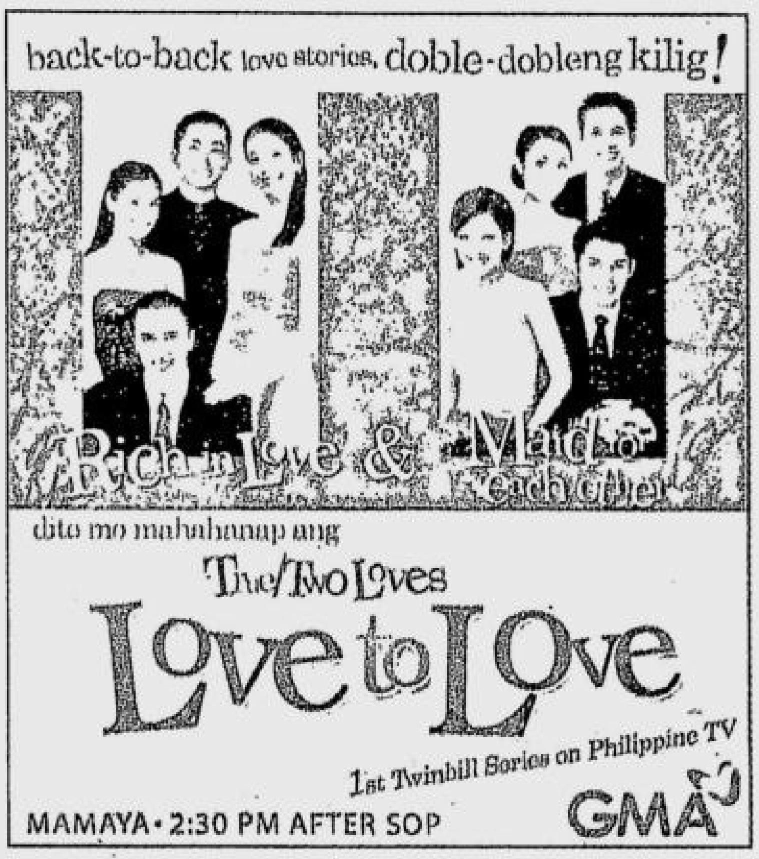

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'Tsong' apologizes for 'kris-nest' episode

On City Hall workers, says Alma 'must be making up stories'

By Marinel R. Cruz

MORENO

MARQUEZ

"WE'RE very sorry if we offended people. We respect their feelings, but we just want our viewers to have fun while watching our show."

Parañaque City mayor and comedian Joey Marquez was apologizing for a segment last Tuesday of his situation comedy "Kool Ka Lang" on GMA 7.

Marquez's apology was also a response to the reaction of his girlfriend, talk show host and actress Kris Aquino.

In last Tuesday's episode of "Kool Ka Lang," Aquino's former live-in partner, Philip Salvador, was a guest. He portrayed an antique collector, Migs, who fought over an ancient kris or dagger with Marquez's character, *Mang* Mags.

In the episode, the two actors had repeatedly used the words "kris" and "nest," apparently a play on words on the names of Kris and Marquez's estranged wife, Alma Moreno, who is also known as Ness.

The episode obviously displeased Aquino who, in her show "Morning Girls" last Wednesday, said she wanted to "kill" someone.

Aquino had said on her show, "How I wish *huwag na ulit siyang tumakbo* because I'm sure *matatalo na naman siya* (How I wish he would not run in the next election because I'm sure he will lose again)."

She was apparently referring to Salvador, who lost when he ran for mayor of Mandaluyong City against incumbent Mayor Benhur Abalos in the 2001 elections. Salvador is the father of Aquino's son Josh.

Marquez also said he has not fired, and would not fire, any employee in the Parañaque city hall.

This time, he was reacting to reports quoting his estranged wife Moreno as saying that the mayor would lay off female employees of his office for attending Moreno's free birthday concert last May 25 at the Cuneta Astrodome in Pasay City. The reports also quoted Moreno as saying she would try to help them find new jobs.

"No one would be fired," Marquez told INQUIRER Entertainment on Friday. "I think she's making this all up."

Marquez said Moreno must have been referring to several employees of Parañaque's solid waste monitoring department whose contracts expired last June.

Marquez, who is serving his third and last term as mayor, said the local government decided not to renew the contracts of several janitors, street sweepers and staff members of the solid waste department to give other Parañaque residents a chance at the jobs.

"It's hard to find jobs for all of your constituents," he said. "But we try to employ as many people as we can."

Last March, Moreno announced her intention to run for mayor in Parañaque in the 2004 elections.

She has tapped incumbent Councilor Gene Puzon to be her vice mayor.

Marquez is seeking the annulment of his 1989 wedding to Moreno in Las Vegas, as well as their 1995 church wedding in Manila.

He said Moreno is also accusing him of digging up the subject of Cebu City disc jockey Julian Say, who is rumored to be Moreno's boyfriend and the cause of their separation.

"Why would I talk publicly about that man," the mayor said. "She knows him better than I do. As much as possible, I try not to talk about her and our marriage. She's still the mother of my kids. I don't want to drag them (children) into this mess."

The couple has four children—Yeoj, Win-Win, VJ and Em-Em.

AQUINO and Josh, her son by Salvador

BEAM me up. A scene from "Taken," Spielberg's production on alien abduction

Cliffhanger and heart-tugger

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

"TAKEN," the sci-fi mini-series **Steven Spielberg** produced a couple of years ago, has begun showing Sundays on Star Movies. We've read the novelization of the entire series, so we can share that the production is a cliffhanger and heart-tugger.

That's Spielberg's storytelling style, of course. Although he didn't direct this series, he guided its development from beginning to end, so the show benefits from his inputs and unique take on "Taken"'s tales of alien abduction.

It's a theme that has fascinated Spielberg since "Close Encounter of the Third Kind." Why has it continued to engage him? The master storyteller shares that he finds doing science fiction "liberating," because possibilities can be put into play.

As for the show's specific focus on alien abduction, it's both cautionary and challenging, because it conjures up mankind's prospects of reaching out far beyond the confines of its planet, and discovering the thrills and dangers of its truly universal connection with everything in God's creation.

After reading the book, we marvel at how Spielberg and the other people behind "Taken" have been able to "humanize" what could otherwise have been a dry, scientific docu-type production.

The series' tales of alien abduction have been fleshed out and rendered empathetic by making the show's events come to bear on idiosyncratic individuals—and, in some instances on the aliens themselves, as well as the unique progeny of both humans and aliens.

These extraordinary gifted individuals are sought out by the US military because they are needed to "fuel" the alien spaceship that has crash-landed on our planet, like the events that transpired at Roswell many years ago.

Why have the aliens come to town? There are all sorts of conjectures advanced by the characters in the series, some benign, others nastily sinister. But the show itself posits that the aliens have visited planet Earth because they want to "retrieve" the ability to feel that they lost in the process of evolving into the technological wizards of the universe.

Since humans feel a lot, the aliens need our emotions to combine with their heightened energy, resulting in a power so great that it can propel both aliens and humans to unimagined heights of achievement.

True enough, the children born of both human and alien parents demonstrate amazing powers that would make superman feel like a wimp.

Trouble is, the US military wants to channel their superpowers for less than enlightened ends, and regards aliens not as possible partners but as enemies who must be killed before they can hold our world in thrall.

So, the battle lines are drawn early in the story. But it takes three generations to fully trace the plot's complex arc. The members of three families interact in different ways throughout the series:

The Keys family gets the action going when its patriarch, Russel, is rescued by aliens during a World War II bombing mission that takes a tragic turn. Decades later, it's her little granddaughter Allie (**Dakota Fanning**) who energizes the series denouement with her special powers.

The Clarke family has its share of alien encounters, resulting in the superpowers demonstrated by some of its members, especially Jacob (**Chad Donella**).

And the Crawford family generally provides "Taken" with its human villains, like its patriarch Owen, who is prepared to do anything to vanquish the aliens he despises, fears and envies.

This "family" orientation to the series' central conflicts gives "Taken" the heightened emotive power it needs to balance its technological and sci-fi marvels.

On the debit side, the story often dips into melodrama, and this waters down its emotive impact. Also, the show's view of aliens is generally downbeat and evil, so genuine cosmic enlightenment isn't achieved.

Still, "Taken" is obviously a special production that should be viewed, despite its flaws and sinister bias.

We hope that, after watching this mini-series, we'll get to understand extraterrestrial and our links to them.

Don't think Spielberg's "Close Encounters," think **Stanley Kubrick's** "2001: A Space Odyssey," where both aliens and humans discovered not what made them different but what made them one.

'Toast to Sir Billy'

ST. SCHOLASTICA'S College and the Manila Symphony Orchestra present a tribute to longtime mentor, Prof. Basilio Manalo, at 4 p.m. today at St. Cecilia's Hall, SSC, Leon Guinto St., Manila.

The program will showcase "Sir Billy's" protégés—Gina Medina, Denise Santos, Regina Buenaventura, with Jareena Inacay, Socorro Cruz and Rechelle Alcances.

Most of the violinists Manalo has mentored are winners of the National Music Competition for Young Artists (NAMCYA). The tribute to Professor Manalo is open to the public. Call 527-8080.

'Spider 2' will be 'stickier'

LOS ANGELES—Actor Tobey Maguire, who shot to A-list stardom in the 2002 smash hit movie "Spider-Man," on Thursday vowed to fans that the web of a tale being spun for next year's sequel will be even stickier than the original.

"I'm really happy with it," he told reporters at a news conference for the new film "Seabiscuit" where he plays a jockey. "It's going to be better than the first one. The story is a lot better."

Maguire, who portrays the comic book crime fighter Spider-Man and his alter ego Peter Parker, said the filming for "Spider-Man 2" was about two-thirds complete.

He declined to provide details of the plot. What is known, however, is that Parker is now attending college at Empire State University while two new villains, Dr. Octopus and the Lizard, plot his destruction.

The first "Spider-Man" became one of 2002's biggest hits by thrilling audiences with action and digital effects and delighting critics with its story of Parker conflicted by the human desire for love and his superhuman abilities.

"Spider-Man" racked up $806 million at global box offices. In its first weekend alone in the United States and Canada, it sold a record $114 million worth of tickets.

Earlier this year, Hollywood was buzzing with talk that Maguire had hurt his back portraying racehorse jockey Johnny "Red" Pollard, who rode the legendary Seabiscuit in the 1930s and 1940s.

Various news reports speculated that because of his back problems, Maguire might be out of a job as Spider-Man/Parker for the sequel, but the 28-year-old actor shot down that talk.

"It's not true that I was fired," he said.

Maguire characterized his back problem as an ailment that had nagged him for years and was not the result of filming "Seabiscuit." He declined to detail his back problems.

He said that because the stunt work in "Spider-Man 2" is more strenuous and acrobatic, there had been some "concerns" and some "questioning" by the filmmakers and himself as to how physically fit he was for the job. But he added that he always intended to reprise his role for the sequel. "I didn't have any doubts," he said.

"Spider-Man 2" is scheduled to be released in July 2004. *Reuters*

'A little inspired lunacy' in Full Moon Jazz Festival today

SHOW TIME

THE JAZZ Society of the Philippines proudly presents its mid-year musical salvo, the Full Moon Jazz Festival, today at Monk's Dream, at the Rockwell Power Plant Mall.

The jazz festival draws its theme from "a little inspired lunacy, lit by a zillion stars under one bright moon," and is the brainchild of Monk's Dream proprietor Gus Lagman, one of the founding members of the Jazz Society.

More than 77 musicians from all over the country will take part in an all-evening jam that will showcase a merry mix of Dixieland, swing, bebop, Latin jazz, fusion, acid jazz and other more experimental improvisational genres.

Hosted by Deanne Hernandez, Prof. Ron Nethercutt, Richie Quirino and Sandra Lim-Viray, the festival kicks off with a movie presentation featuring the Marsalis family, 4-5 p.m. This will be followed by a jazz lecture about New Orleans by Nethercutt at 5-6 p.m., and the Jazz Society Quarterly Meeting, 6-7 p.m.

The all-star jam, 7 p.m. to 2 a.m., will feature the Executives Band, the Sidemen with Dave Brown, INK with Ces Velasco, the Lampano Lounge Committee with Binky Lampano, the Parliament Syndicate with Chedi Vergara, JFK with Sandra Lim-Viray, Majam, the Brass Munkeys with Mark Steady, the Eileen Castro Quartet and Elemento.

The jazz jam marks the return of blues man Lampano, who recently returned to Manila after almost three years in LA, and of the Eileen Castro Quartet, which performed for the past seven years at the Le Royal Meridien Yacht Club in Pattaya, Thailand.

Elemento is a four-member, experimental jazz/art movement formed by assemblage artist Lirio Salvador. Composed primarily of artists/musicians, the group performs regularly in museums and galleries using especially-designed instruments made of bicycle parts, stainless tubes, computer parts and other nontraditional materials.

"Jazz is alive and well in the Philippines," says Jazz Society executive producer Richie Quirino, "and we take great pride in presenting nothing but our best crop of homegrown jazz artists through regular jazz festivals such as this."

The Full Moon Jazz Festival is presented by Rockwell Land, Monk's Dream and the Jazz Society of the Philippines.

10 screen sirens heat up Casino Filipino-Angeles

TEMPERATURES will definitely rise when sexy stars Regine Tolentino, Geneva Cruz, Aleck Bovick, Michelle Bayle, Jenny Miller, Angelica Jones, Michelle Estevez, April Tolentino, Cherry Lou and Priscilla Almeda steam up the new Casino Filipino-Angeles on July 26, 9 p.m., in "Showgirls," a repeat of the successful show held at the Casino Filipino-Mimosa early this year.

The show is billed "Strictly for Adults Only."

The 10 screen sirens will be joined by sexy and naughty singers Ethel Booba and Tuesday Vargas, with the Whiplash and Groove Manila.

For tickets and reservations, call SM Ticketnet, 911-5555; Casino Filipino Angeles, (045) 332-1196 to 98, or (02) 920-2643, or Live Artists Production, (0918) 922-1542.

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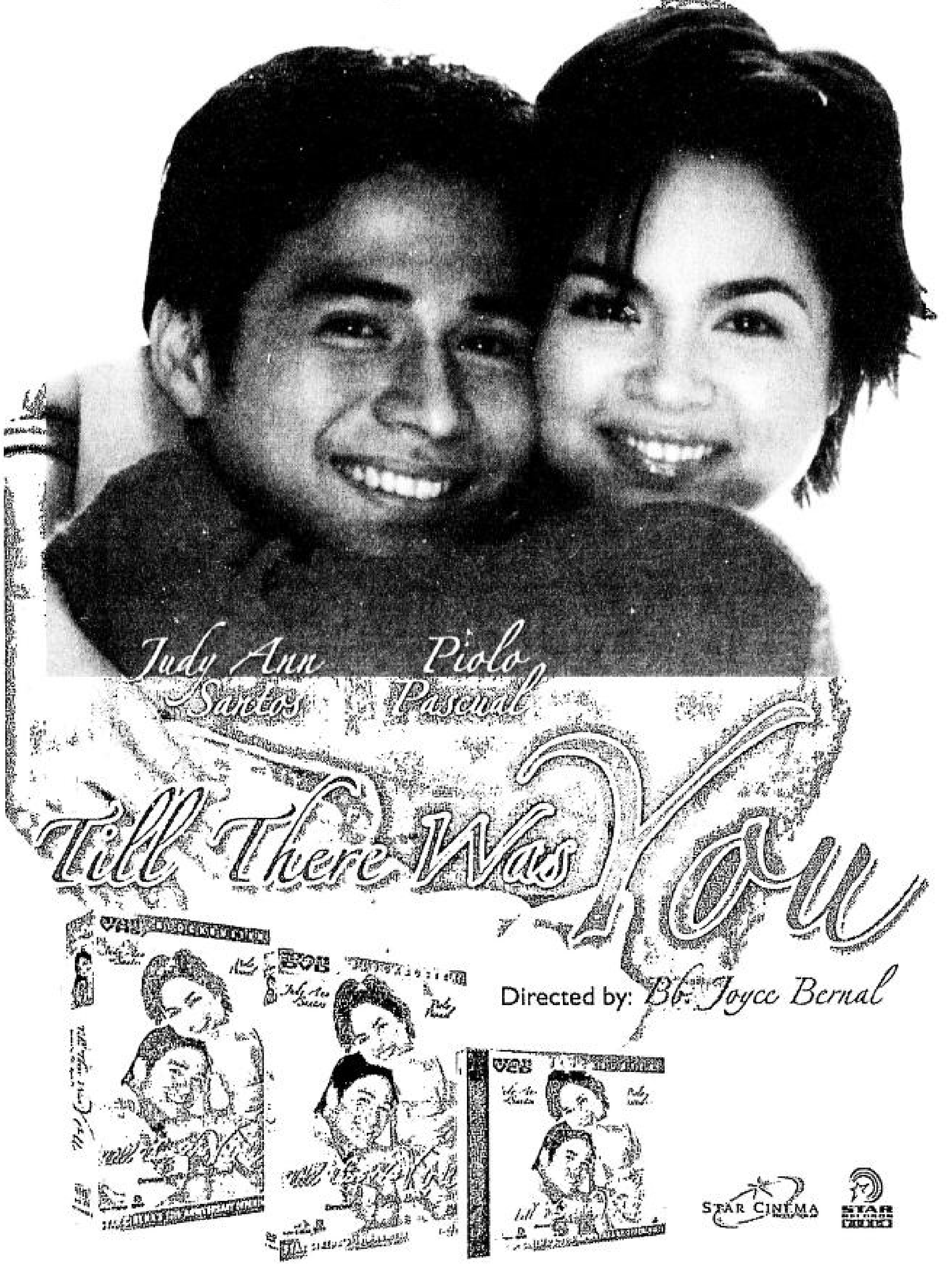

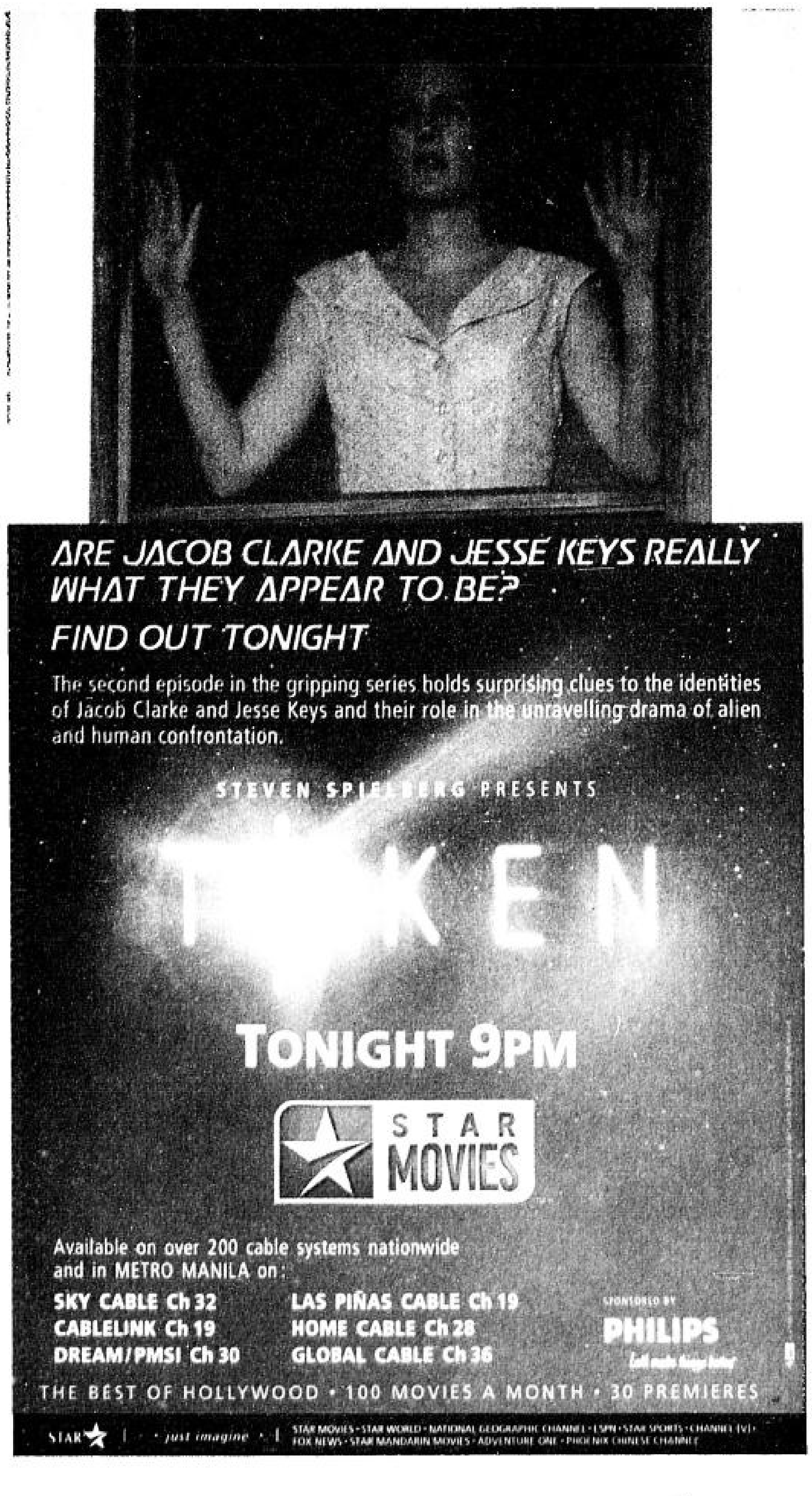
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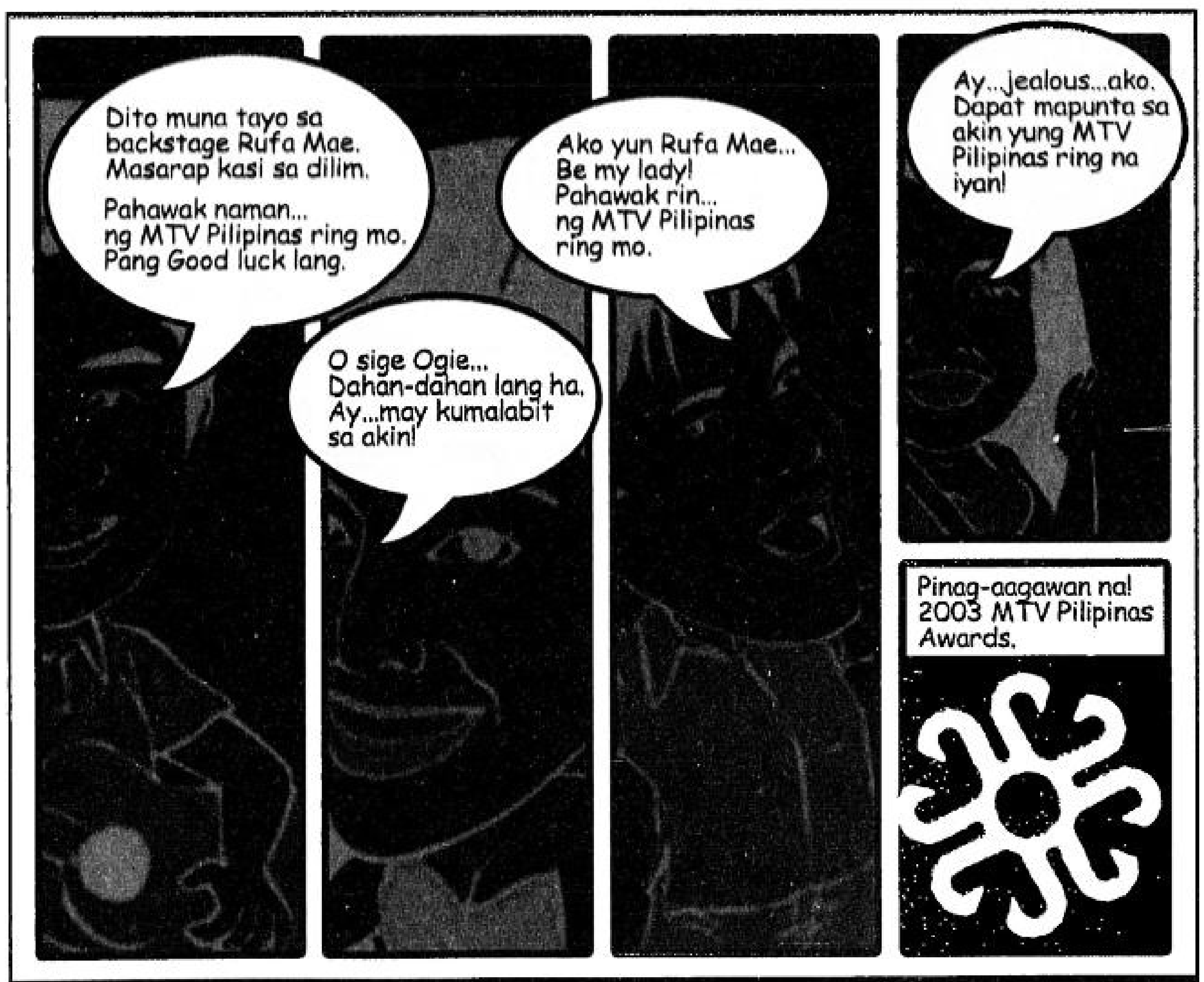

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3. Sugarfree - *Mariposa*
4. Kamikazee - *Lucky*
5. Ayon - *Bawat Gabi*

Favorite Group
1. Barbie's Cradle - *All I Need*
2. Imago - *Idlip*
3. Slapshock - *Numb*
4. Rivermaya - *Wag Na Init Ulo Baby*
5. Truefaith - *Deadma*

Favorite Male
1. Martin Nievera - *Never Say Goodbye*
2. Gary Valenciano - *Warrior is a Child*
3. Ogie Alcasid - *Sana*
4. Ding Dong Avanzado - *Here to Say*

Favorite Female
1. Regine Velasquez - *Sa Aking Pag-iisa*
2. Nina - *Jealous*
3. Carol Banawa - *Stay*
4. Sharon Cuneta - *In Your Eyes*
5. Pops Fernandez - *Kaya Pala*

Favorite Song
1. Nina - *Jealous*
2. Imago - *Idlip*
3. Barbie's Cradle - *All I Need*
4. Rivermaya - *Wag Na Init Ulo Baby*
5. Regine Velasquez - *Sa Aking Pag-iisa*

PILIPINAS MTV 03

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2 CHARLIE'S ANGELS FULL THROTTLE	2 CHARLIE'S ANGELS FULL THROTTLE	2 TERMINATOR 3 11:40, 2:05, 4:30, 6:55, 9:30	THX GUARANTEED SEATS 2 TERMINATOR 3 1:00 3:25 5:50 8:15 10:40	2 TERMINATOR 3
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4 TERMINATOR 3	4 DUMB & DUMBERER		GUARANTEED SEATS 4 THE HUNTED 12:25 2:35 4:45, 6:55 9:05 11:15	4 THE HUNTED
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Ms D: I'm fed up with Lolit

From page C1

was still okay. But when Lolit came into the picture, they lost the role."

INQUIRER Entertainment called up the talent manager in her house, but was told Lolit was not home. Her assistant Gorgy said Lolit always has her cell phone turned off and that he didn't know how to reach her.

Dina said Lolit had been saying she had refused the role in "Moral Ngayon" for Lorna and that she did not care who would replace the actress. Lolit had also said on prime time TV last week that it didn't matter if Lorna did not get the third wife's role in "Mano Po 2" since she's a bigger star than Dina.

Bigger fee

"According to Tess Fuentes (of Star Cinema, producer of 'Moral Ngayon'), the role was offered to Lorna but they did not agree on the price," Dina said. "So Tess told them, never mind, and they gave me the role. But they did not inform Lorna and the original 'Moral' cast that they had been replaced. They felt bad, naturally, since they already met about shooting schedules and everything."

She said Anna Marin, who was in the cast of the original "Moral," told her that Lolit had offered Star Cinema a price for Lorna to reprise Anna's role of the free-spirited Joey in "Moral," but Star wanted a lower fee and Lorna agreed. But two days before the shooting, Star Cinema again asked Lorna to lower her fee.

"I was told Lorna refused," Dina said. "That's why, two days before the shooting, they called me and offered me the role."

But it turned out that Dina's fee for the 'Moral' role was bigger than what was offered to Lorna. "That's what they were so mad about," Dina said. "Star Cinema did not even bargain with me. My fee was not lower than their offer to Lorna. In fact, it was even higher. They thought Star favored me. But they couldn't do anything since my fee was based on an existing contract when I made 'Tanging Yaman.'"

Lorna, however, said in a cell phone conversation with this writer that there was no issue with her and Lolit in the case of "Moral Ngayon."

"Lolit refused the role for me," Lorna said. "That's that. But 'Moral Ngayon' will be showing on Aug. 2. They probably just want the movie to be talked about."

'Sorry, Baby'

Dina also insisted that the third wife's role in "Mano Po" had been written for her.

"How could Lorna been the first to have been offered the role," Dina said. "It was written for me. They (screenwriter Roy Iglesias) even told me the part was written for me. They had me in mind when they wrote the story."

Dina said she was originally in the cast of the first "Mano Po," but movie producer Lily Monteverde had let her go after Assunta de Rossi, who was supposed to play Dina's sister, was thrown out of the movie.

"So, Mother Lily told me, 'Sorry, Baby, I'll just include you in the next Mano Po.'"

The producer finally called Dina for "Mano Po 2" and to discuss her role.

"She wanted me to play the mother of Aubrey Miles," Dina said. "But I told her, not Aubrey Miles, she already has a child. Although my daughter Danica is already 21, I don't look old enough to play Aubrey's mother.

"So they changed Aubrey to Alessandra de Rossi and gave me the role of the third wife."

'Why are you here?'

But in the press conference of "Mano Po 2," where Dina arrived late but dressed in a cheongsam that made her look like a China doll, the actress said that ABS-CBN reporter Mario Dumaul had told her that Lorna had wanted to play the third wife.

Dina said: "Just because I was late, she already wanted to be the third wife? But if she had been originally chosen to play the third wife, she should have told the reporters in the press con that she was the third wife and not 'I want to be the third wife.' This only means the role was not offered to her."

Dina related that in the press con, Lolit was goading her with lines like "Bonnevie, why are you here? *O*, Mother, *si* LT *ang* third wife, *ha*. I'll pull out Boyet (Christopher de Leon) if you give the role to Bonnevie.

"Then Alfie (Lorenzo, a tabloid columnist) asked me why I was there," Dina said. "Was I part of the cast? I was so upset that I wanted to leave the press con."

Reversed roles

This was not the first time that Lorna and Dina got caught in a tussle over a role. Dina said she was the original choice for the part of Rosita Monteverde in Lino Brocka's "Maging Akin Ka Lamang," the role that won for Lorna several acting awards.

"I had to re-shoot some scenes because Lorna wanted to play the bad girl (Rosita)," Dina said. "It happened again in 'Hindi Nahahati ang Langit.' Lorna's role was supposed to be a goody-two-shoes, but she wanted to be bad. So they weakened my role so that Lorna would really be bad."

But roles are reversed in real life. Lorna is known in the industry as a calm person. Dina is famous for being outspoken. Both are first-rate actresses and friends in real life, who are engaged in a professional tussle over a potentially award-winning role.

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Miranda was screened at the 2002 Sundance Film Festival.

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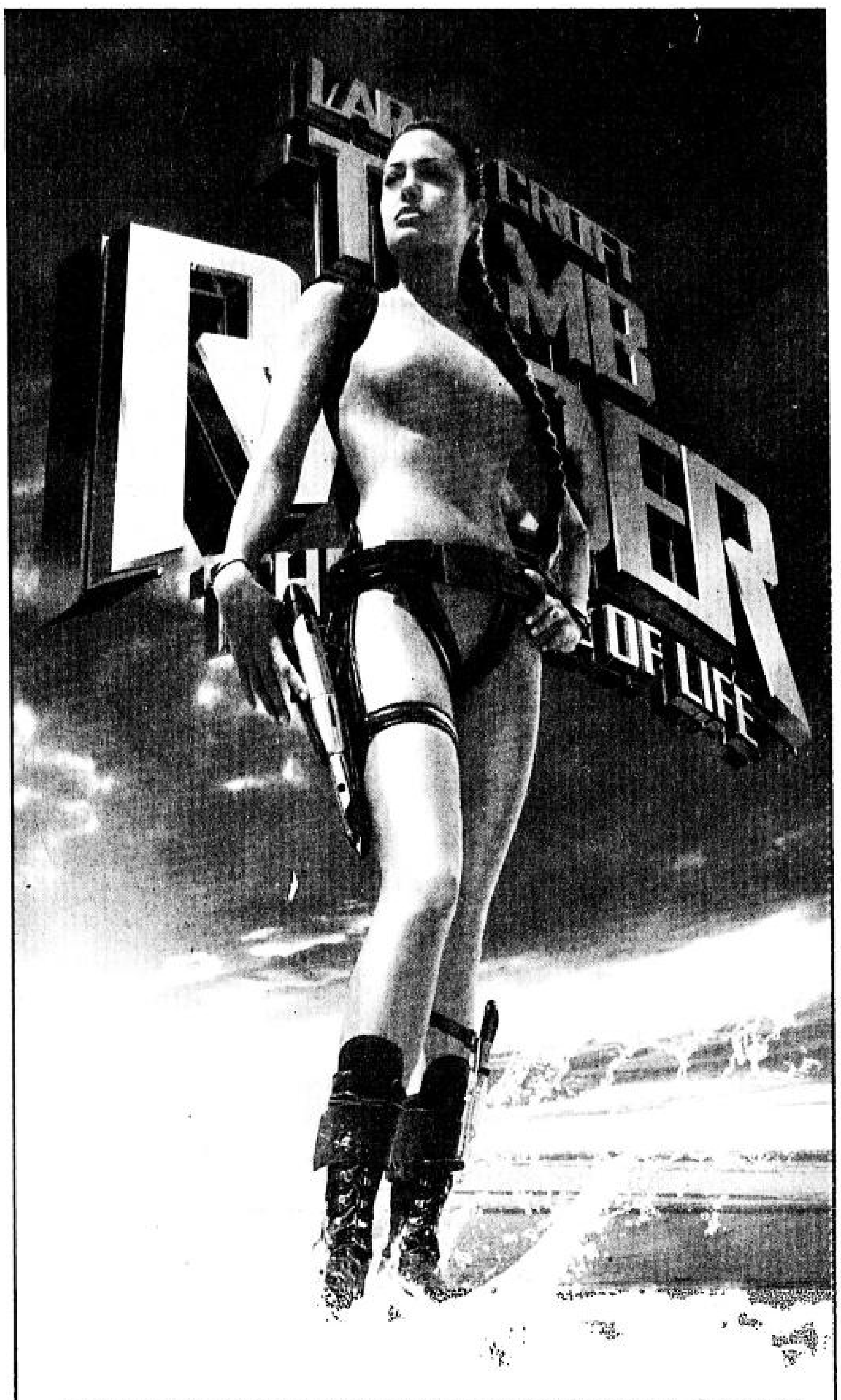

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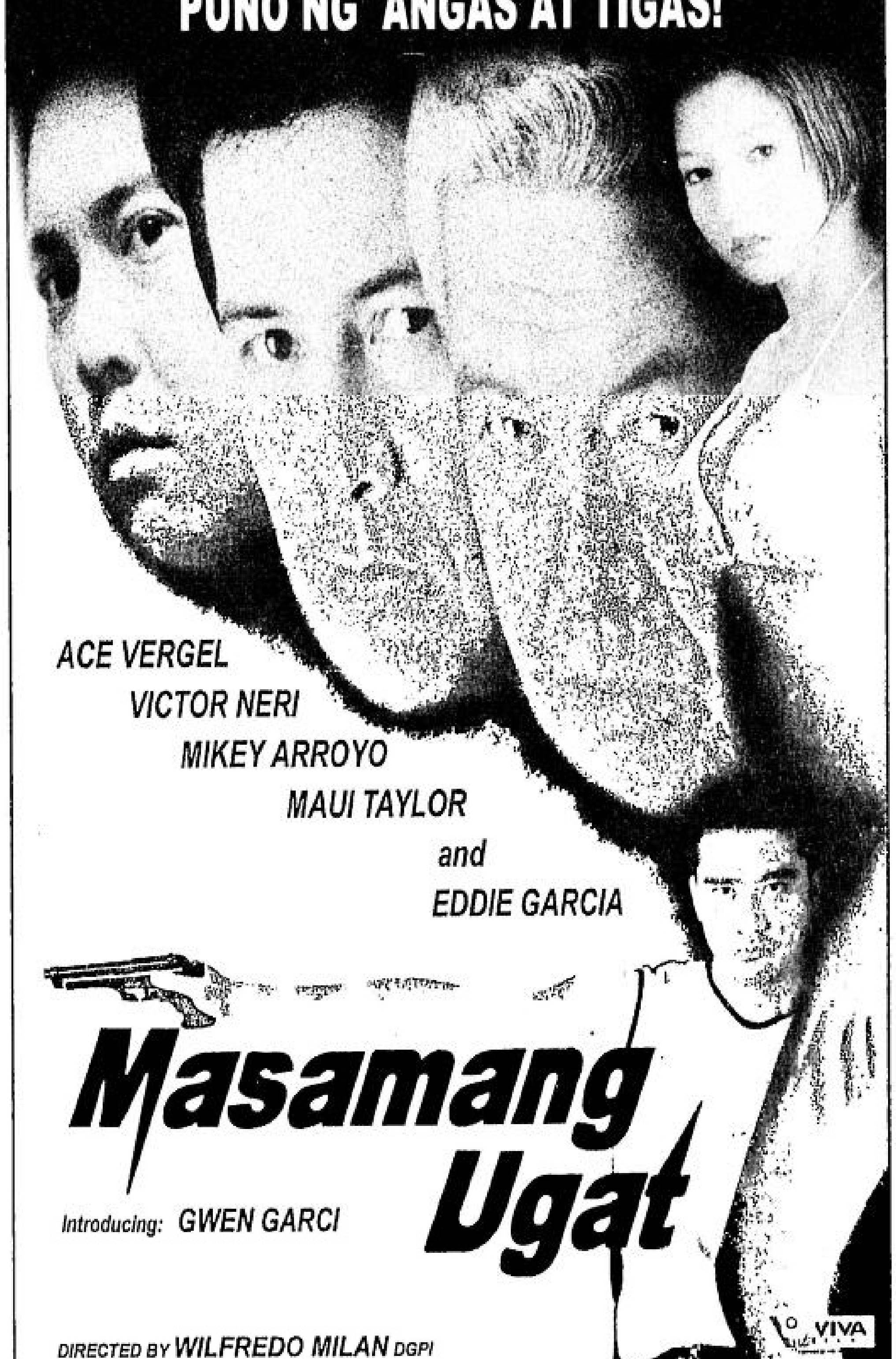

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'This is Me' at Hard Rock Café

VALDEZ

KRYSTINE Valdez takes center stage when she celebrates her birthday with a show titled "This is Me," on July 28, 9 p.m., at the Hard Rock Café in Makati.

Krystine will be interpreting songs by her idols Whitney Houston, Mariah Carey and Jennifer Lopez, among others.

Krystine is a belter, but she will also be doing acoustic music that night.

Krystine has performed as front act for Michael Bolton and Tiffany. She also captured attention as a special guest of Martin Nieverra in his show "Martin Live at Onstage" at Greenbelt.

Her special guests in the Hard Rock Café show are Willie Nepomuceno and Rico J. Puno. Bobby Gomez is the show's musical director.

Tickets are available at Hard Rock Café and Coriks Bar. For inquiries, call 897-3247.

The show is also presented by the Evergreen Group.

DID YOU KNOW...

Raymond Bagatsing's favorite recent movies are "White Oleander" with Michelle Pfeiffer, "Frida" with Salma Hayek, "Breaking Up" with Salma and Russell Crowe. He likes to read the poems of Pablo Neruda and Ace Boggs.

Araneta Center
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX 7	
Ali 1	HULING BIRHEN
Ali 2	TANGING INA
Ali 3	TERMINATOR 3
Ali 4	TERMINATOR 3
Ali 5	CHARLIE'S ANGELS
Ali 6	DUMB & DUMBERER
Ali 7	THE HUNTED
ARANETA COLISEUM	
JULY 13	UAAP GAME
JULY 17	UAAP GAME
JULY 24	UAAP GAME
JULY 25 & 26	DON MOEN CONCERT
AUG 01	DON MOEN CONCERT
AUG 02	JUST ONCE...GREATEST HITS
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ODEON	X-MEN 2
ODEON-2	BUKID AY BASA / KASIBULAN
ROBEN	BOLD STAR
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	SPY / LEGEND OF CROCODILE
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	UNFAITHFUL CUNCUBINE/KANA 2
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	TERMINATOR 3
B	HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
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CINEMA-2	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
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STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	HULK
CINEMA-2	MGA BABAE SA VIP ROOM
CINEMA-3	BIGLANG LIKO
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	TERMINATOR 3
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	28 DAYS LATER
CINEMA-6	HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
CINEMA-7	HOT SPOT
CINEMA-8	HINDG SA PILIT
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	CHARLIES ANGLES 2
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	TERMINATOR 3
CINEMA-11(SDDS)	TERMINATOR 3
CINEMA-12	TERMINATOR 3
CINEMA-14	THE HUNTED
CINEMA-15	DUMB & DUMBERER
LORES	
CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN	
CINEMA 1	CHARLIE S ANGELS 2
CINEMA 2	THE EYE
CINEMA 3	A MAN APART
CINEMA 4	TUMTIBOK [illegible]
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
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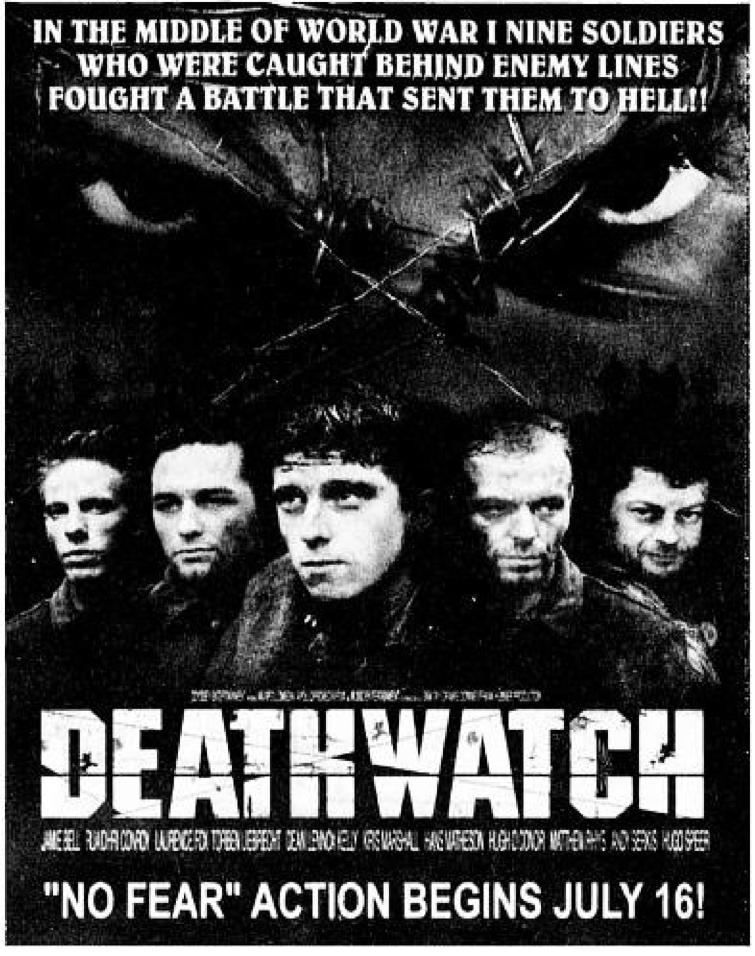
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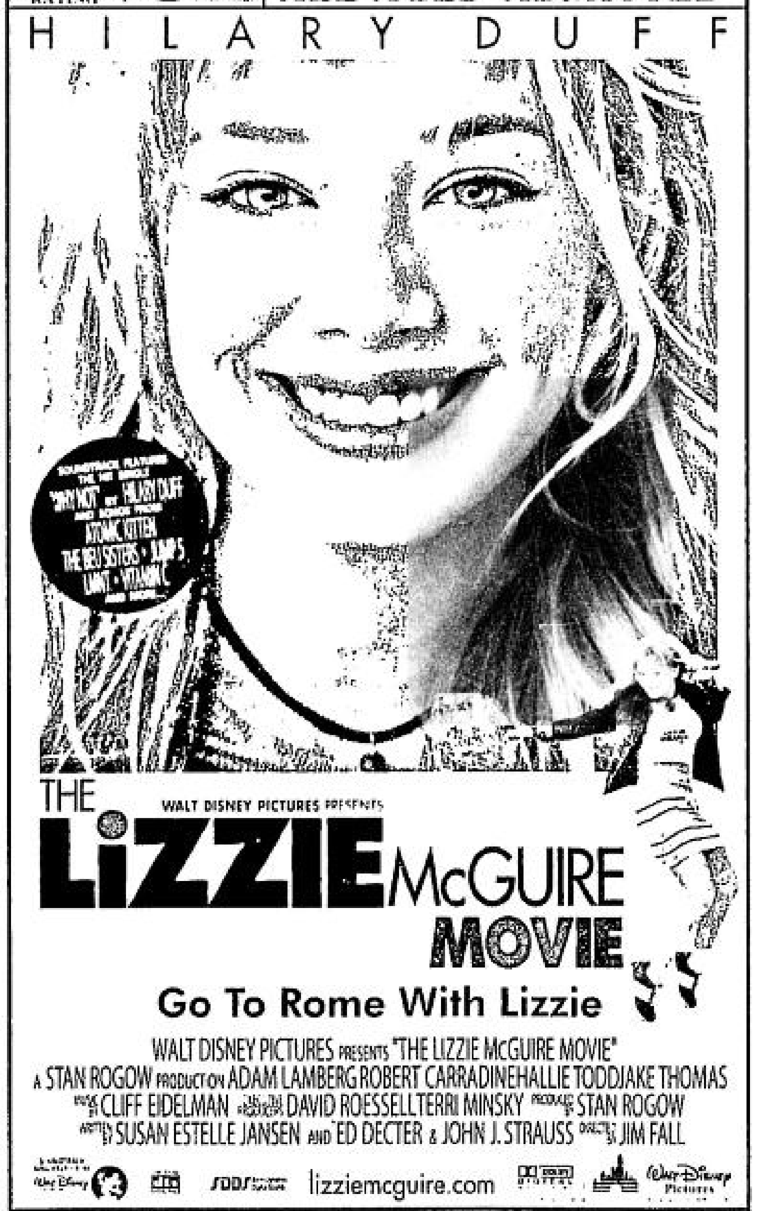
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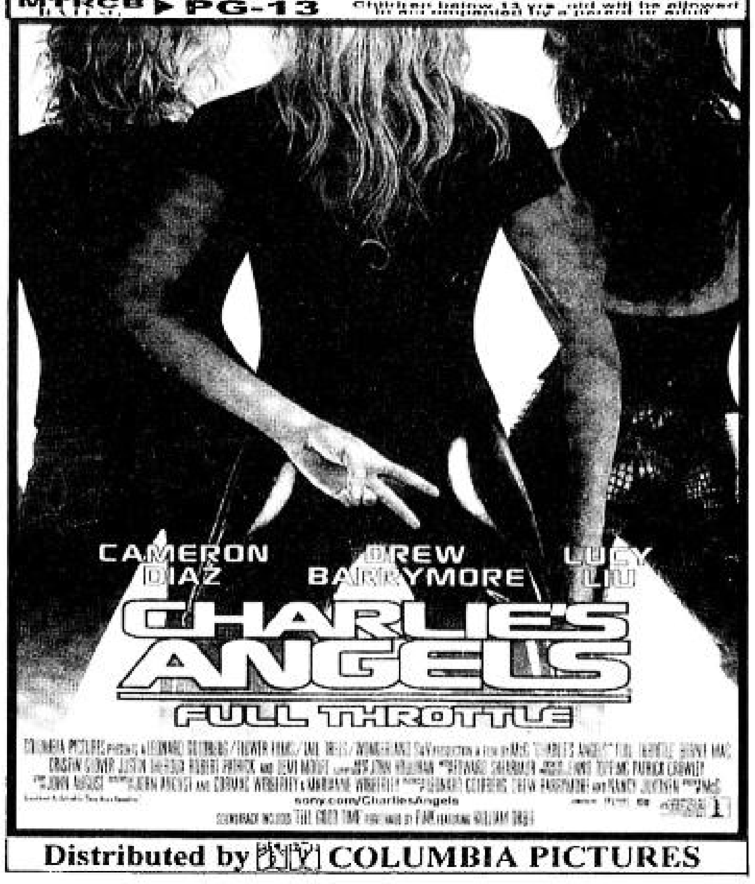
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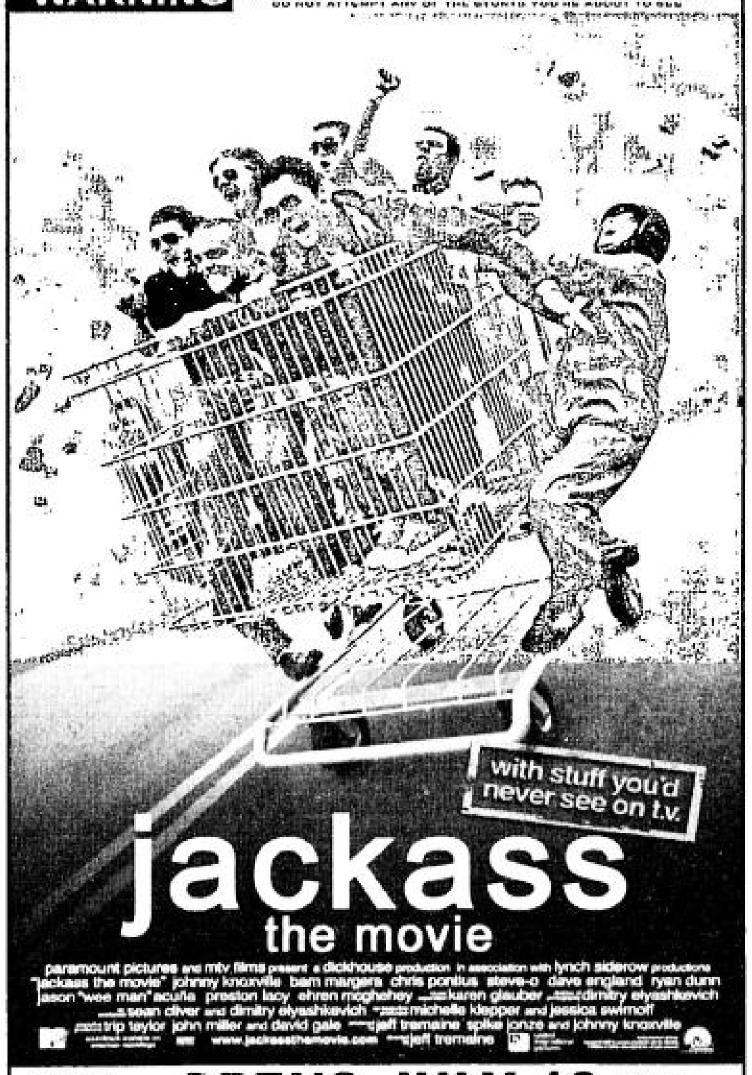
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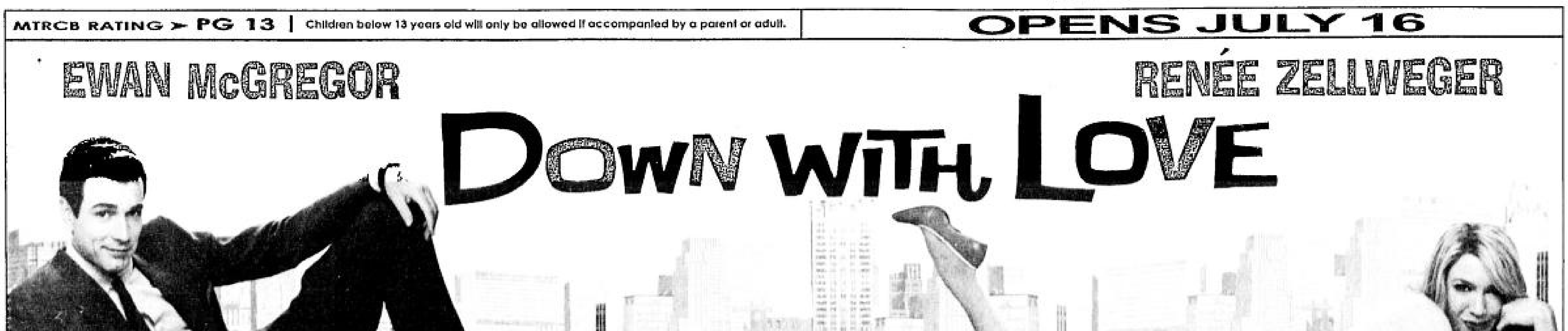
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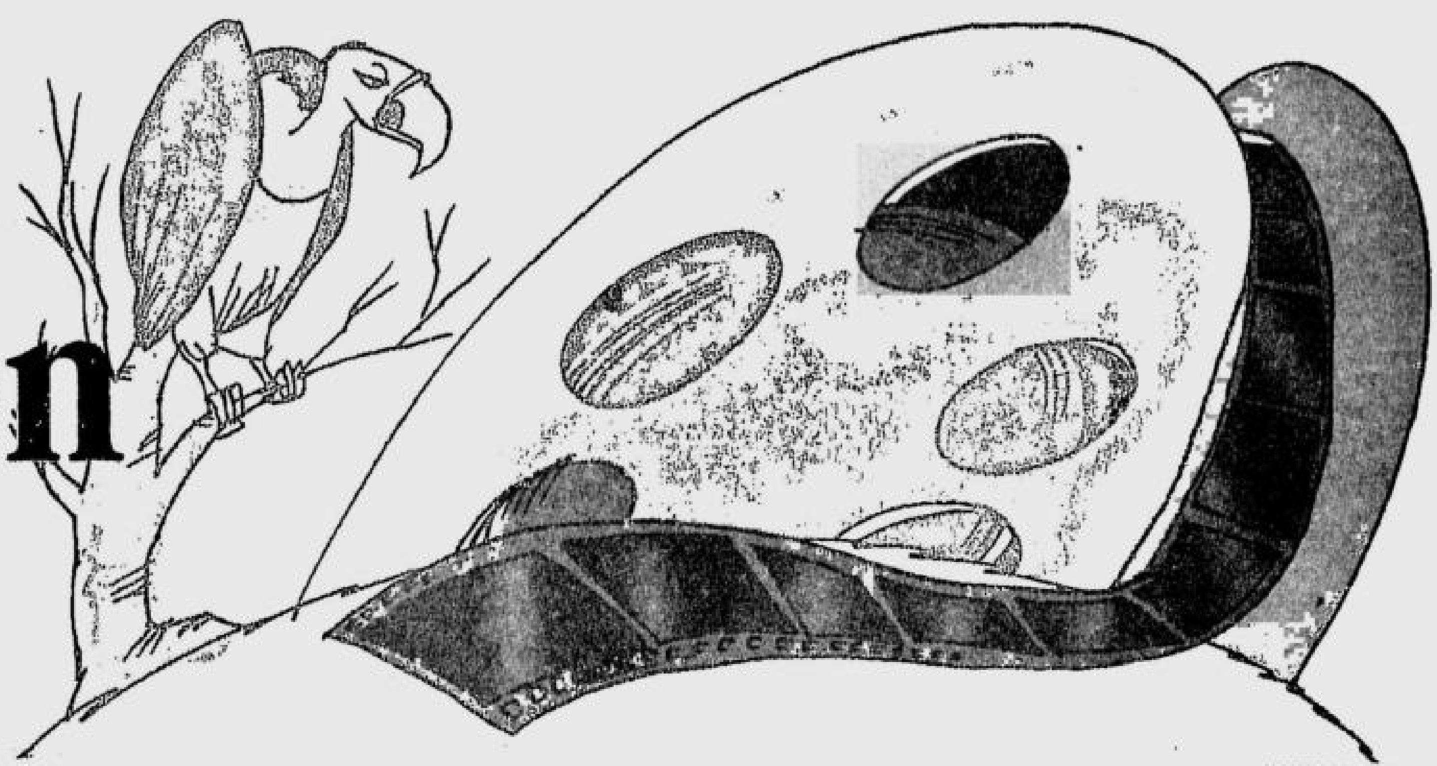
Movies vs television

Yet another essay on the 'impending death' of RP cinema


ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

By Jose Javier Reyes
Contributor

THE SIGNS are all there and no one is alarmed.

Perhaps everybody is resigned to or has accepted the fact that in a few years' time, Philippine filmmaking would have followed the fate of most national cinemas around the globe. It is called extinction.

Consider, for instance, that as late as 1999 there were approximately 127 feature films produced and released. By 2002, only three years later, the number registered a dismaying 65 or so. Now that this year is half done, the indicators point to an even more significant decrease in output.

Talks with studio heads reveal that the total projected line-up of the three major film companies—Star Cinema, Viva Entertainment and Regal Entertainment—will total about 27 to 28—that is, if all their projects in the pipeline materialize. And how many smaller productions and independent producers are there to fill the gap in numbers or employment in terms of manpower?

But then again, what is happening is already expected. We can always enumerate too many reasons why Filipino audiences shy away from local movies. We can go on and on about the excessive taxes slapped on producers, the bane of piracy or even the resurgence of colonial mentality now termed as inevitable globalization. For how can a local production go up against a techno-heavy movie that resembles a video game with action-packed scenes and *pakitang-gilas* computer wizardry? How can any Filipino producer risk too many millions of pesos when he is up against a Hollywood juggernaut whose budget is equivalent to the entire national budget of the republic inclusive of deficit?

Second thoughts

Forget it. The Pinoy audience would rather stay home and stay glued on to two straight hours of prime time telenovelas where they can see practically every living and breathing human actor in the business today, providing staple spice and tears not only to their dinners but also their cash-strapped lives.

A review of the line-up of big stars now doing the five-nights-a-week performance should also be reason enough for any Pinoy to have second thoughts about spending money to see the same faces do more or less the same schtick outside the comfort of the Pinoy viewer's living room.

This brings us to an even more interesting development involving the death throes of Pinoy movies. Gone are the days when a distinction existed between film and television stars. Once upon a time, above-the-title movie actors shun appearances in the small tube in order to preserve the magnitude of their presence and significance of their positioning in the scheme of the entertainment industry. A guest appearance of a really big star was usually heralded as an event—something good enough to send the audience-share barometer into frenzy.

Made on TV

But now stars are no longer made in movies—they are manufactured by television. Examine the latest roster of the hottest young performers, and their career path is so evidently traced on a television-based popularity—from moment of discovery to ultimate marketability. While the TV industry used to service film producers for purposes of promoting products, now the movie business has been diminished to a mere extension of what has been preordained in boardrooms as prime time programming.

How did this come about? The answer is also laid out in the present structure of the entire entertainment business. Multi-media corporations have created little kingdoms and fiefdoms that define competition by creating stars with exclusive contracts designed to neutralize the competitors.

This was the same practice done in the '50s when movie studios discovered, developed and packaged their own stable of actors and actresses, transforming them into luminous demigods, and then creating material to suit their public persona and talent while underlining their exclusive services. The tradition continued all the way to the '80s when Regal Films had its babies (Snooky Serna, Maricel Soriano, etc.) and Viva had the phenomenal Sharon Cuneta.

But at that time, TV still remained the cousin that stayed one step behind.

Raising the stakes

But nowadays there are no more stars—or even supporting performers—whose presence is exclusive to movies. The moment TV studios started their own farms, complete with incubators and management contracts, the power of persistence and consistency redefined the meaning of stardom all together.

Although Maricel literally grew up in front of the TV audience, her crown was anointed by her box-office clout in movies. Even if Dolphy and Nida Blanca became TV icons, thanks to years of "John and Marsha," they were already the King of Comedy and the Immortal *Galawgaw* before they assumed the personas of the Puruntongs.

> Gone are the days when stars had the brilliance of Richard, Aga, Robin, Sharon and Maricel. Today's idols have the immortality of the latest models of cell phones

So what does this all say? Film has ceased to be a potent force—or even the priority—of media lords and performers. Everyone wants to be on TV not only because that is where the money is, but also because there are fewer and fewer films being made. And as the competition between the giant networks becomes more vicious with the shrinking of the economic pie, the strategy is to continuously up the stakes by stuffing every new program with many actors to make the program look attractive and big.

For the fledgling talent, TV is now the key to unlock the door of opportunities. For the veteran performer, a regular role in a TV show is the only way to survive. It is only when the upstart makes a name for himself that he can supposedly graduate into a starring role in a movie. And for the old-timer, movies provide aesthetic fulfillment (which, on all accounts, is only secondary to his daily bread), considering the kind of work he is made to do in his TV character.

Is it any wonder that filmmaking has become more and more impossible to figure out nowadays? Ask any schedule master, assistant director or director and you will get a collective sigh of frustration. The availability of actors for shootings has become close to nil because of their seven-day work week on soap operas and sitcoms or rehearsals for song-and-dance numbers in variety shows, mall appearances and God knows what else it is that they all do.

Appearing on the movie set is usually logged in at the bottom of the actor's schedule, unless the film project's playdate is in two to three weeks' time.

Cell phone immortality

Film producers have lost gusto. Without a TV base, actors can no longer warrant public attention or interest. Not unless a sweet young thing decides to shed off her *kolehiyala* persona and shamelessly flaunt her newly enhanced mammary glands for the sake of art can a performer take that necessary leap from non-entity to media celebrity. And that moment of glory lasts for even less than the allotted 15 minutes of fame.

Gone are the days when stars had the brilliance of Richard Gomez, Aga Muhlach, Robin Padilla, Sharon Cuneta and Maricel Soriano. Today's idols have the immortality of the latest models of cell phones: Like everything in modern life, they have become disposable and easily dispensable.

The new star system ensures this is so because of the number of TV shows it requires to populate.

Will we eventually stop making Filipino movies? Producers still have to churn out products to fulfill contractual commitments to TV stations, and multi-media companies need to deliver so many products in order to provide software for cable and free TV. But over and above that, nothing else remains.

Dwindling passion

The cries for help of the industry have remained ignored, if not remedied with short-term prescriptions. Too much politics and politicking have invaded the film industry to the extent that noble intentions to bring back the glory of local movies have remained convenient talking points for someone or the other's grandstanding.

Most significant, the passion for filmmaking has dwindled into a mere creation of products. Filmmaking has become such a risky multimillion-peso gamble that no one can blame major producers for sticking to formulae that they equate with the greatest possibilities for profits or even return of investments. And independent producers have been so badly burned that they would rather invest their money in stalls selling rice toppings than even dream of making yet another adventure into financial disaster.

In the meantime, let us all sit back and enjoy our dosage of soap operas while Filipino movies take their happy journey down the drain.

MIKE FOR ABS

SHOW STOPPER

Following in the footsteps of Gary Valenciano and Nonoy Zuñiga, award-winning broadcast journalist Mike Enriquez, a Type-2 diabetic, is the new spokesperson for ABS Bitter Herbs, the 100 percent all-natural food supplement made of seven power herbs. ABS (Active Bitter Supplement) Bitter Herbs is not a medicine and certainly not a cure for diabetes. But Mike attests that it can help a diabetic maintain the ideal blood sugar level. Dubbed recently by Time Magazine as the "Silent Killer," diabetes impairs the body's ability to use food. It is fast becoming an epidemic globally and in the Philippines. Mike has made a name for himself as the staunch anchor-host of GMA-7's "Imbestigador" and "Saksi." He has won both local and international awards as Best Male Newscaster for "Saksi," including the Ka Doroy Valencia award from the Kapisanan ng mga Brodkaster sa Pilipinas (KBP).

One night of music for the soul

REVIEW

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

LOCAL jazz lovers who failed to make it to Manila's first Jazz Festival, held last month as part of the French Spring in Manila 2003, can only look back on that day with chagrin. The festival not only featured five of the country's leading jazz exponents from different musical persuasions; it also brought home the fact that Filipinos can and do play jazz, very well indeed.

First up was Ding Basbas and the Upbeat Band, led by renowned saxophone player Basbas himself, who has played his tenor saxophone in Europe and the United States. His group played so-called "serious" standards and Dixie selections, including a rollicking version of "Sing, Sing, Sing" with two sets of drums that sounded like rolling thunder.

Happy People followed, the youngest among the featured performers but who are already called the "Señors" or the leading exponents for their generation of the 20-30-year-olds who are also hooked on jazz.

Most seasoned

All eyes were on Mike Guevarra who played a mean sax for someone so young. He was ably accompanied by former Los Angeles street musician Koko Bermejo on drums, Ria Villena-Osorio on keyboards and Simon Tan on bass.

From the youngest in the group came the most seasoned, Jazz Friends, which used to be led by the late Lito Molina. But Molina's passing encouraged the surviving members of the band to continue with the music, with Jun Cadiz on keyboards leading the charge.

Jazz Friends, which featured well-loved music from the halls of New Orleans and the French Quarter, showed everybody—the French, the Filipinos and other guests from the diplomatic corps—how well Filipinos can play jazz.

The group has such a polished feel that did not take away from the improvisation that marks real jazz. The group featured Rolly Rodriguez on baritone sax, the great Armando Valmonte on drums, Ading Lavatiz on guitar and bass.

Creativity, passion

From the swinging Dixie jazz from Jazz Friends, came Buhay, a group composed of leading session musicians such as Tots Tolentino on sax, Wowee Posadas on keyboard, Mar Dizon on drums and Meong Pacana on bass. Pacana was not able to make it to the festival, but Rommel de la Cruz of Barbie's Cradle ably pitched in with the bass strings.

Buhay is the only group with an album among the artists in the festival. It performed at the 2001 Singapore Jazz Festival and will represent the Philippines again this year in a French jazz festival.

Rounding up the list of musicians was sax virtuoso Eddie Katindig, who also regaled the audience with his skill on the vibraphone. He teamed up with other veteran jazz musicians like Romy Posadas on keyboard, Roger Herrera on bass, Dingdong Duque on percussion, Dr. Laurena on the congas and Ricky Posadas on drums.

KATINDIG (above) and Tolentino reward the audience with a jam session in a show that is also a tribute to the French.

Jazz is not exactly easy to play, as many musicians themselves would say, because it requires not only expertise with the instruments, but it also demands creativity and passion that can change from one performance to the next.

Sponsors Manuel Cojuangco of Jewelmer and Louis Vergeon of Air France said they chose to focus on jazz because music can be easily understood and easily goes beyond language barriers.

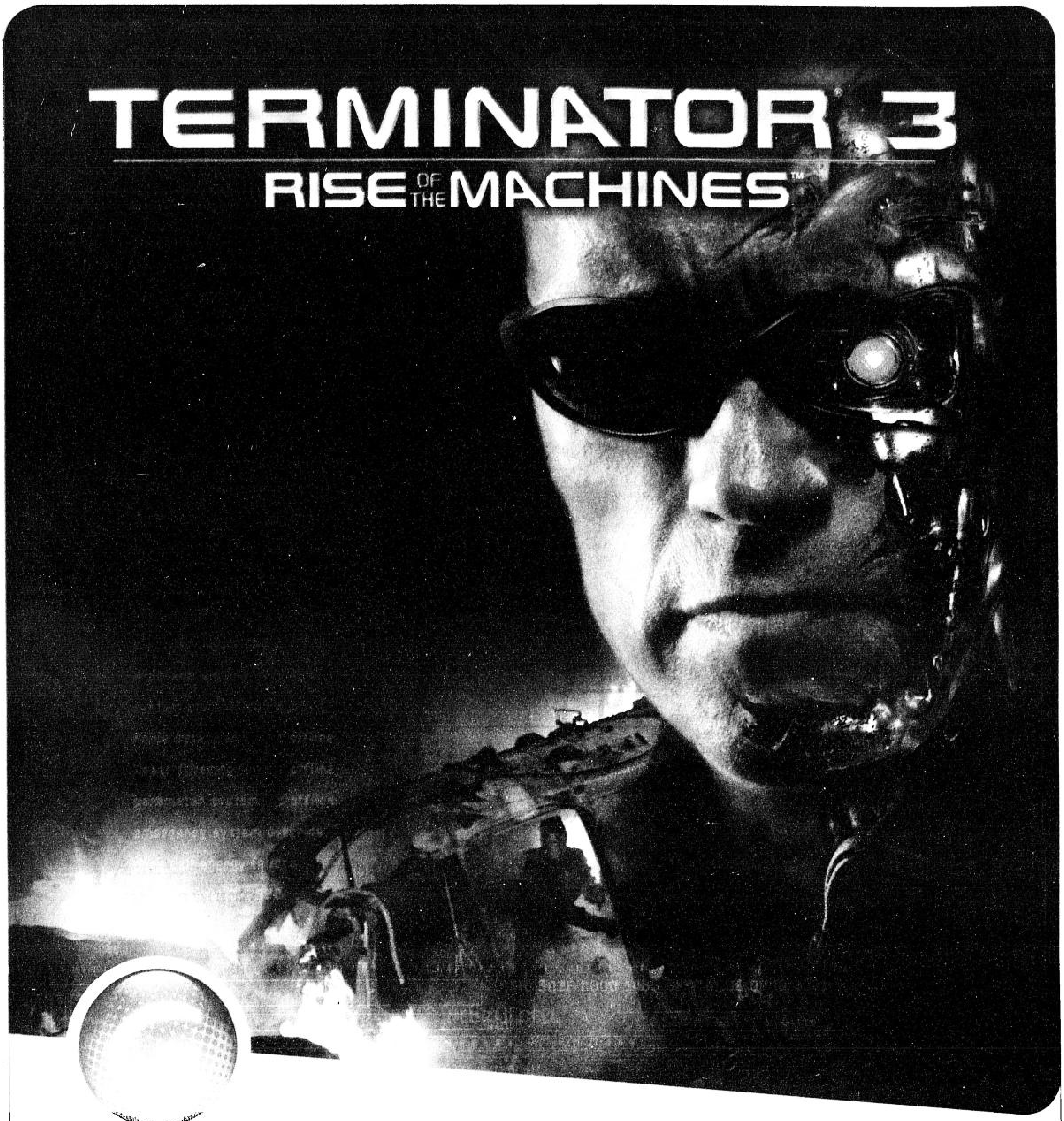
Jazz appeals especially to the French and Filipinos who can easily relate emotionally to the swinging rhythms and improvisations of this music "for the soul."

Jam session

Many in the audience were ready to leave after more than three hours of almost non-stop music, but those who stayed were rewarded with an impromptu jam session of 12 handpicked musicians from the different groups, with Eddie K. emerging as the instant band leader.

The night truly ended at a high as the musicians simply came up, picked up their instruments and, after just a few nods among themselves, played their instant songs. First was "When the Saints Go Marching In," a classic that got some people dancing. But the perfect touch came when Eddie K started off with the first strains of "Le Vie En Rose."

It was such a beauty to see not only 12 of the best musicians gamely playing the song as tribute to the French, but to also see members of the French embassy dancing together, truly a fitting end to a real festival of jazz and romance.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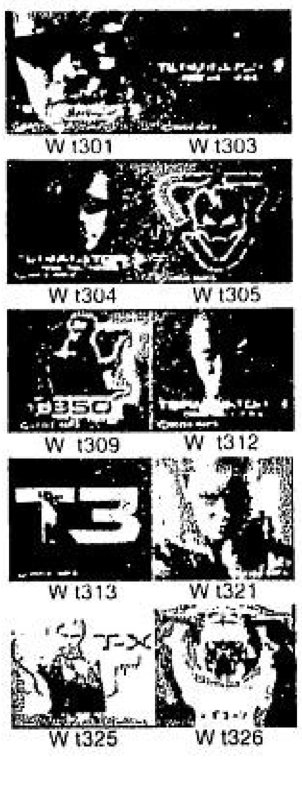
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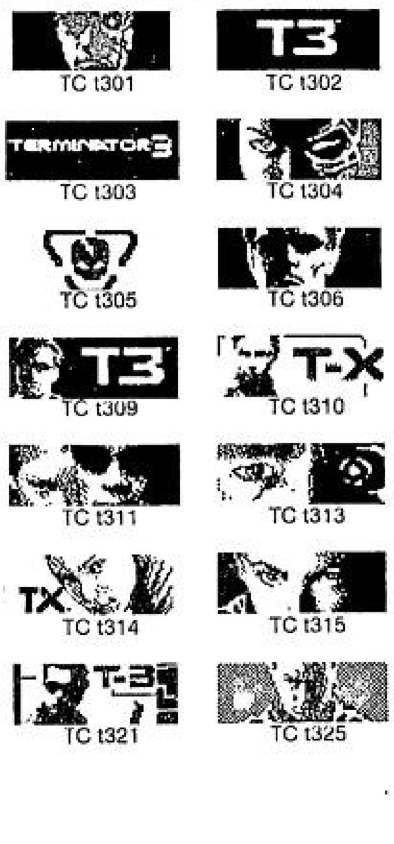
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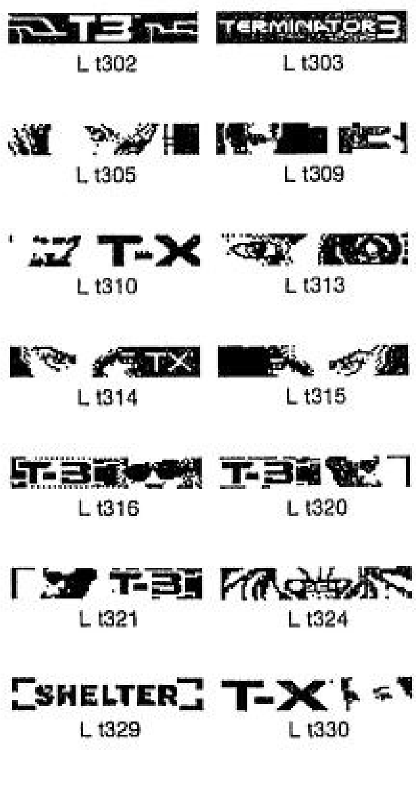
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Love Scene	N tluvsce
Terminator Arrival	N tarrival
The Terminator: Theme	N terminator
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POLYTONES	
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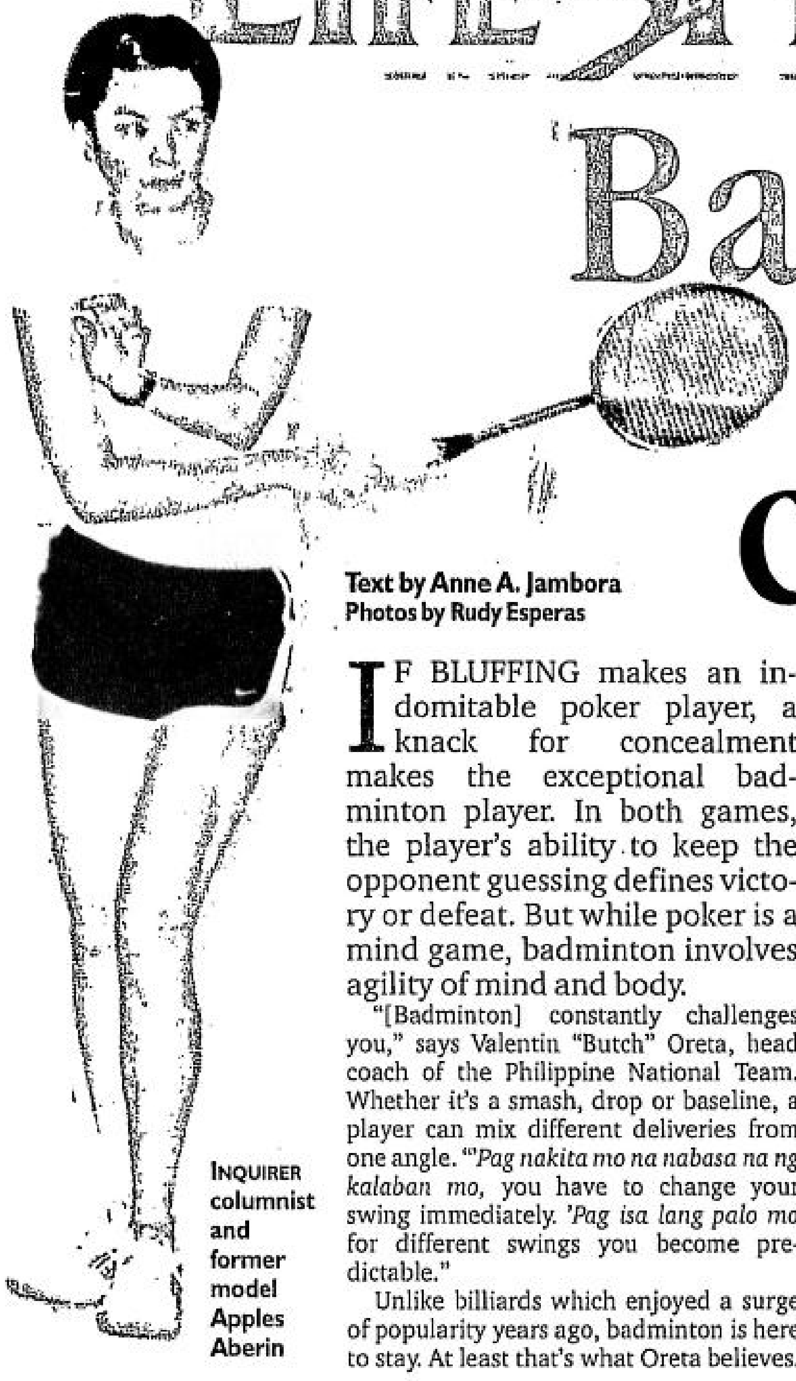

INQUIRER columnist and former model Apples Aberin

Badminton makes a mean comeback

Text by Anne A. Jambora
Photos by Rudy Esperas

IF BLUFFING makes an indomitable poker player, a knack for concealment makes the exceptional badminton player. In both games, the player's ability to keep the opponent guessing defines victory or defeat. But while poker is a mind game, badminton involves agility of mind and body.

"[Badminton] constantly challenges you," says Valentin "Butch" Oreta, head coach of the Philippine National Team. Whether it's a smash, drop or baseline, a player can mix different deliveries from one angle. "'*Pag nakita mo na nabasa na ng kalaban mo,* you have to change your swing immediately. *'Pag isa lang palo mo* for different swings you become predictable."

Unlike billiards which enjoyed a surge of popularity years ago, badminton is here to stay. At least that's what Oreta believes. "[Badminton] is not just another fad. Aside from the physical and mental challenges, it's fun and enjoyable. Anyone can play this game. There's no age limitation."

Several years ago, the public had the wrong impression that badminton was sissy, unfairly comparing it to tennis that then had pictures of the rebellious long locks of Björn Börg in the front pages and, later, the foot-stamping, racquet-throwing tantrums of the crowd-pleasing brat John McEnroe.

About this, Oreta says: "[Senior] badminton players can shift to tennis, but [senior] tennis players can't shift to badminton. Badminton is very demanding in terms of stamina and movement. Unlike tennis, *hindi puwede pabagsakin ang bola sa baba.*"

Explosive growth

When local actors such as Richard Gomez began playing badminton for exhibition, people became curious and badminton got a second lease on life.

And how! Clubs and courts soon mushroomed all over the metropolis—concrete, rubber-matted, with taraflex, wood—and local groups and forums flourished on the Net.

The turning point, however, for badminton's recent popularity and explosive growth was the JVC-sponsored games at the Glorietta mall two years ago, says Oreta. "Many people were able to watch the games live so genuine appreciation for the sport was developed."

Today, the game counts movers, shakers and sparklers as converts, including First Pacific's Manny Pangilinan, SGV's Cesar Purisima, PNB's Lorenzo Tan, PSE's Ernest Leung, JG Summit's Frederick Go, Rep. Teddy Boy Locsin, Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay, Anti-drug task force chief Gen. Edgardo Aglipay; fashion's Apples Aberrin Sadhwani, Sara Jane Paez, Marilen Espino and Pin Antonio; show biz's Charlene Gonzales, Ricky Davao, Zoren Legaspi, Carmina Villaroel, Agot Isidro, etc.

Sports aficionados turned to badminton initially to lose weight. In the process, they

BADMINTON/ D6

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Jollibee

JUNE Ugarte, Grace Lerma, Gabriel Palmer and Iris Arcenas

CHAINED men: chef Dietmar Dietrich, Markus Stern, Michel Lhuillier and Patrick Gregorio

AMPARITO Lhuillier, Pinky Chang, Irma Atillo, Teresing Mendezona and Melissa Atillo

A special event for gourmets and gourmands

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell

THOSE splendid formal dinners organized by the Cebu chapter of La Chaine des Rotisseurs have become eagerly awaited events for gourmets and gourmands who form the association and their guests. Of late, there have been several formal affairs that have elicited as much, if not more, interest.

Take the "Viva España, y Ole" event at Sol y Luna, the Spanish specialty restaurant at Ayala Entertainment Center.

Reservations poured weeks in advance, and the limit of 30 had to be stretched to more than 40. All turned up in high spirits on the appointed day, June 24, which by a happy coincidence is the feast day of Spain's King Juan Carlos. Viva, indeed.

JOJI and Nestor Alonso

Iris Arcenas, **Grace Lerma** and **June Ugarte** form the trio of lovelies who run Sol y Luna, and they were dazzling in their costumes.

They struck a pose with **Gabriel Palmer** who supplied the wines for the evening, some of the very best vintages from Valdepeñas in Andalucia which is in the deep south of Spain.

Welcoming all were **Michael** and **Amparito Lhuillier**, she being the "Baili' of La Chaine in Cebu, and he being the head of L'Ordre Mondial. With them were **Teresing Mendezona**, who sported a red, red rose; **Markus Stern**, chef **Dietmar Dietrich** and **Claude Evangelio**.

The food was all authentic Spanish, starting with the Cocretas a la Canaria and on to tortilla diced up, and more familiar things like Calamares Fritos and Champiñon al Ajillo.

There were no place cards, so many searched for their favorite spots. Understand that as near or far from the aircon. There are those who'd like to be near the washroom or the exit.

The paella was the buffet's centerpiece, and a favorite was Bacalao a la Vizcaina, of which the chef had to continually prepare and replenish.

More on that spread were the fish fillets in lemon sauce, chicken simmered with garlic, and the crispiest grilled lamb chops ever. Wines served were **Castillo de Nogales**, **Don Aurelio** and **Señorito de los Llanos Crianza**. Salud!

Various desserts were also on hand, and if you were lazy to get them, the solicitous service personnel were gracious enough to bring heady portions to the tables.

A group of serenaders played Latin music all night, a dancing couple performed a stomping number, and when it was dance-for-all a la flamenco, there were quite a few who took to the floor. **Alfredo Malasoma** took **Grace**; **Choy Sala**, **Iris**; and **Michel L**, **June**. They could have danced and we all could have clapped "toda la noche."

If Amparito seemed to be holding court at one part of the locale, it was because all were eager to hear stories. She had just arrived from California a few days before, and everyone wanted to know what's the latest on her daughter **Monique** who is a big success in the fashion world.

CECILIA Rodriguez, Myra Gonzales y Osmeña, Rachel and Kenneth Lim

Under the label of Monique Lhuillier (she is Mrs. **Tom Bugbee** in private life) she has a line of bridal and evening wear in high- end shops across the USA.

Amparito had lugged two wedding gowns for a fashion show to be held in Cebu, which will be duly reported. Also, Amparito had been to Las Vegas to pick up her mom, **Doña Nita**, who is now in Cebu, settled in her Maryville apartment, and has begun to grace the social scene. Will she come to the next La Chaine dinner?

That is already being planned. It just might be at **David Ugarte**'s steak restaurant called—what else?—David's. And on the menu there'll be steak. Again, what else?

Seriously, David's is the best- rated steak specialty restaurant in Cebu, as **Nestor Alonso** found out in a survey he made for the local press.

The Experts Speak Up!

Eutrapio S. Guevara, Jr., MD, FPCS
Professor and Chairman
Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery Director
Director, Voice (Speech) - Swallowing and Sinus Center
St. Luke's Medical Center

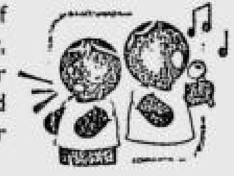
Hoarseness

Prevention and Treatment Tips

Don't just ignore it. Taking hoarseness for granted can lead to serious voice ailments. Early consultations with your Ear, Nose, and Throat specialist or a visit to a well-equipped Voice Center will help you find a solution to your voice problems.

What is Hoarseness?

Hoarseness is a general term describing abnormal voice changes either in volume, pitch, or quality. It is the most common symptom of disorders related to the voice box (larynx). When hoarse, the voice may sound breathy, raspy, or strained. The vocal folds are the sound-producing parts of the voice box and any disruptions of voice sound are due to its disorders. Normally, when one breathes, the vocal folds remain apart. But when someone starts talking or singing, they come together, and as air leaves the lungs, the vocal cords vibrate and produce sound. Swelling or lumps on vocal folds will stop them from coming together properly, and produce changes in the voice.



What causes Hoarseness?

There are many causes of hoarseness but most are not serious and disappear in a short period of time.

- Acute Laryngitis. This is the most common cause of a hoarse voice and is associated with an inflamed larynx. This usually occurs due to swelling from a common cold, acute rhinosinusitis, allergic rhinitis, usually with discharge at the back of the nose, and upper respiratory tract viral infections. It can also be caused by voice abuse such as yelling and screaming.
- Vocal Fold Tumors. Vocal nodules lead to polyps or cysts of the vocal cords, and this happens with excessive voice use -- either too much, too loudly, or improperly.
- Laryngopharyngeal Reflux. Gastric irritation to the vocal cords takes place when stomach acid comes up to the esophagus. Usually, one's voice is worse in the morning, and gets better through the day. There is also a lump sensation and mucus.
- Smoking. It is a major cause of voice cancer.
- Others. Allergies, thyroid problems, neurological disorders, trauma to the voice box, and occasionally, the menstrual cycle.

Who can treat Hoarseness?

When hoarseness lasts longer than two weeks or has no obvious cause, it is best evaluated by a certified ENT doctor. Problems with the voice should be managed by a professional who understands fully well voice functions, mechanisms, disorders, and treatment.'

How can Hoarseness be prevented and treated?

- ○ Quit smoking and avoid secondhand smoke.
- ○ Drink plenty of water and avoid agents which would dehydrate the body, such as alcohol and caffeine.
- ○ Avoid late night meals.
- ○ Watch your diet. Avoid spicy foods, carbonated drinks, chocolates, and menthols.
- ○ Humidify your home.
- ○ Avoid voice abuse or using your voice too long or too loudly.
- ○ Avoid speaking or singing when your voice is injured or hoarse.
- ○ Keep the throat healthy by gargling with an antiseptic mouthwash.

When should one with hoarse voice see an ENT doctor?

It is best to see an ENT doctor when you:

- ○ experience prolonged hoarseness (more than two weeks), especially if you smoke and if you are a professional voice user (singers, hosts, preachers, lawyers, etc.).
- ○ experience throat pain, not from colds or flu.
- ○ cough up blood.
- ○ have difficulty in swallowing.
- ○ feel a lump in the neck.
- ○ experience loss or severe change in voice lasting longer than a few days.

Hexetidine Bactidol'
A health update from the throat care experts, PSO-HNS and Bactidol.

INNO Sotto and Anna Kalaw

FIRST Lady of Cebu City flanked by Evelyne Singson and Sonia Roco

The best of Cebu and Manila fashion

TEESAW

Raul Teehankee

CEBU's and Manila's top fashion designers recently showcased their bridal gowns at the Pacific Ballroom of Waterfront Cebu City Hotel and Casino.

It was a battle royale of fabulous design, tailoring and detailing. Philippine haute couture at its best.

Those who represented the Cebu group were Mario Colmenares, Jude Elardo, Protacio Empaces, Arcy Gayatin, OJ Hoefer, Monique Lhuillier and Philip Rodriguez.

DRIPPING in diamonds and pearls, jeweler Lili Adan

WATERFRONT Hotel GM Marco Protacio

MARINELLA Fajardo, Malaysian couturier Orson Liyu and Joseph Gonzalez

The Manila designers were Vittorio Barba, Patrice Ramos-Diaz, Rhett Eala, Rajo Laurel, Jojie Lloren, Dino Lloren, Anthony Nocom, Randy Ortiz, Frederick Peralta and Inno Sotto.

Welcoming the guests during the three-day event were hotel GM Marco Protacio, group president Patrick Gregorio and owner representative Rex Gatchalian.

Interesting sidelights

Jeweler Lili Adan was glittering, literally and figuratively, for two successive nights. On the first night, she wore a beaded yellow terno by Aureo Alonzo. The next evening, she was dripping in fabulous pearls and diamonds.

Alex and Andy Klepp are gorgeous bachelor twins from Cebu who can give the surfing Brewer twin models a run for their money.

Model Antoinette Ocampo was the star of the night with her sweet smile and charming features. She is a daughter-in-law of Bernice Romualdez.

Christian Waaler from Norway stood out for his strong Viking appeal. Amparito Lhuillier, who represented daughter Monique, walked like a seasoned model during the finale.

The glamorous Weddings at the Waterfront 2003 was co-presented by Metro Weddings' "I do" magazine, Carefree Barely There and Bench.

WATERFRONT Group president Patrick Gregorio with wife Maricel

ANTOINETTE Ocampo and Susan Tagle

REX Gatchalian

Pilgrims sleep on ground for Our Lady of Piat

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

THE PILGRIMS from nearby provinces arrived on buses in Piat, Cagayan, bringing with them blankets and extra clothes plus food to last for two days so they could celebrate the feast of the Our Lady of the Visitation of Piat last July 2.

The ground floor of the Pilgrim's Inn was made available for them, but they needed more space, so they camped out in the courtyard of the church.

Why did they do it? I asked Archbishop Diosdado Talamayan, who replied, "It is a show of faith. They believe in 'Apo Baket's' powerful intercession."

So when we attended the High Mass officiated by the Archbishop at 5 p.m. on July 1, we saw the church full of people—some standing with hardly an inch between them and others alongside the walls of the basilica. Thirty priests, including the Rector Fr. Gerry Perez, concelebrated with the Archbishop in a beautiful solemn Mass.

The miraculous image of the Our Lady of Piat was enthroned on a boat covered with flowers, reminiscent of the time when she travelled from Macau in 1604 and arrived in Baggao, then brought to Aparri, then Lallo-c, which was the seat of the Archdiocese of Nueva Segovia for a time.

Finally, she was brought to Tuau. But after she was transferred to Piat in an attempt to pacify the warring tribes and put them under Our Lady's protection, the people of the town refused to give her back. The people of Tuau were only pacified when the parish priest promised to build a church facing the town of Tuau.

In his homily, Archbishop Talamayan revealed a miracle that happened to Naty Castillejo Vital, sister of Fr. Camilo Castillejo.

Vital, who lives in New Jersey, had an ailment that made her very weak. She lost so much weight that when the archbishop saw her in her home in New Jersey last year he didn't recognize her. The bishop prayed over her, asking for her miraculous healing, and gave her the oil of Our Lady of Piat.

When he was back in the Philippines, the archbishop received a call from Vital telling him that she was now okay and that she was going home to Tuguegarao, so she and her husband could visit the Our Lady of Piat.

My friend Ted Arcilla, who went to Piat to take photos, marveled at this story. Seeing the crowd of people reaching out to the Virgin as she was brought out of the church for the procession, he said, "It is enough for me to see this kind of faith. I am happy to be here."

Refuge in all necessities

In his history, Fr. Pio Morales calls the Our Lady of Piat "the veritable refuge in all necessities of both body and soul."

Soon after Our Lady took her place on a side altar of the parish church in Piat, the people felt her wondrous help materially and spiritually. She protected them especially from inundation by Chico River. When, in 1622, the parish priest brought the image to Tuguegarao and returned with a replica, the people almost staged a revolt. The original image, which is almost six feet high, was brought back to Piat and a separate chapel was constructed for her.

A grand basilica dedicated to Nuestra Señora de Piat now stands where the chapel was. On June 20, 2004, the church will celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the canonical coronation of Our Lady of Piat by then Papal Nuncio Vagnozzi.

Preparations are now being made for the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Our Lady in Cagayan Valley. A logo was chosen through a contest and a hymn to honor Mary was composed by Fr. Jojo Umandap.

Coffee-table book

Writer and creative director Robert Cannu Caballero, whose mother Nena is a native of Tuguegarao, is writing a coffee-table book for the quadricentennial. Titled "Our Lady of Piat: The Miraculous Brown Madonna of Cagayan Valley", the book will be published by the Piat Legacy Foundation.

Francis Rivera is photographer; Abet Bagay, Gerry Secretario and Gil Mananis, photo assistants; Alberto Arcenas and Cellie Iringan, production coordinators; Bing Caballero Ruso, production manager; Cris Reyes, researcher; and Roberto Labog, editor.

Bobby is working closely with Fr. Eladio Neira, OP, and Fr. Pedro Salgado, OP, who wrote the book "Cagayan Valley and the Cordilleras." After reading the book, Bobby realized that the Dominicans championed the cause of the natives at that time and they were able to propagate devotion to the Our Lady of Piat among the people.

Rosary convention

The Prayer Warriors of the Holy Souls is marking its 11th anniversary with the Second National Congress at the Spirit of Love Community Worship Hall at the Manila Seedling Bank on Quezon Ave. corner Edsa 8 a.m.-5 p.m., July 19. Theme of the convention is "The Rosary: Path to Life, Love and Light."

Speakers are Fr. Jojo Zerrudo, Dr. Arnold Monera, and Bishop Rolando Tria Tirona who will talk on the Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, patroness of Holy Souls. Bishop Ramon Arguelles will say the Mass.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

The feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel will be on July 16. The Barasoain Church, which is dedicated to her, will hold a procession after the 6 a.m. Mass and another procession at 7 p.m.

In Manila, San Sebastian Church will hold the fiesta Mass at 6 p.m. with Fr. Lauro Larlar, OAR, father provincial, officiating the Mass with other priests, including parish priest Fr. Paul Dacanay.

Seminarian needs help

Genreve Acebedo has always wanted to become a priest since he was in kindergarten. He entered the Our Lady of Guadalupe Minor Seminary, but needs a benefactor to make this dream come true. His father, Balthazar Acebedo, is a part-time instructor at the Don Bosco Technical School, while his mother Malou is a housewife. Those who wish to help can write Genreve Acebedo at the Our Lady of Guadalupe Minor Seminary, Edsa corner Bernardino St., Guadalupe Viejo, Makati City, or call the rector, Fr. Rolly Agustin, at 895-8964/65.

Thank you for your kindness.

The Our Lady of Piat is considered 'the veritable refuge in all necessities'

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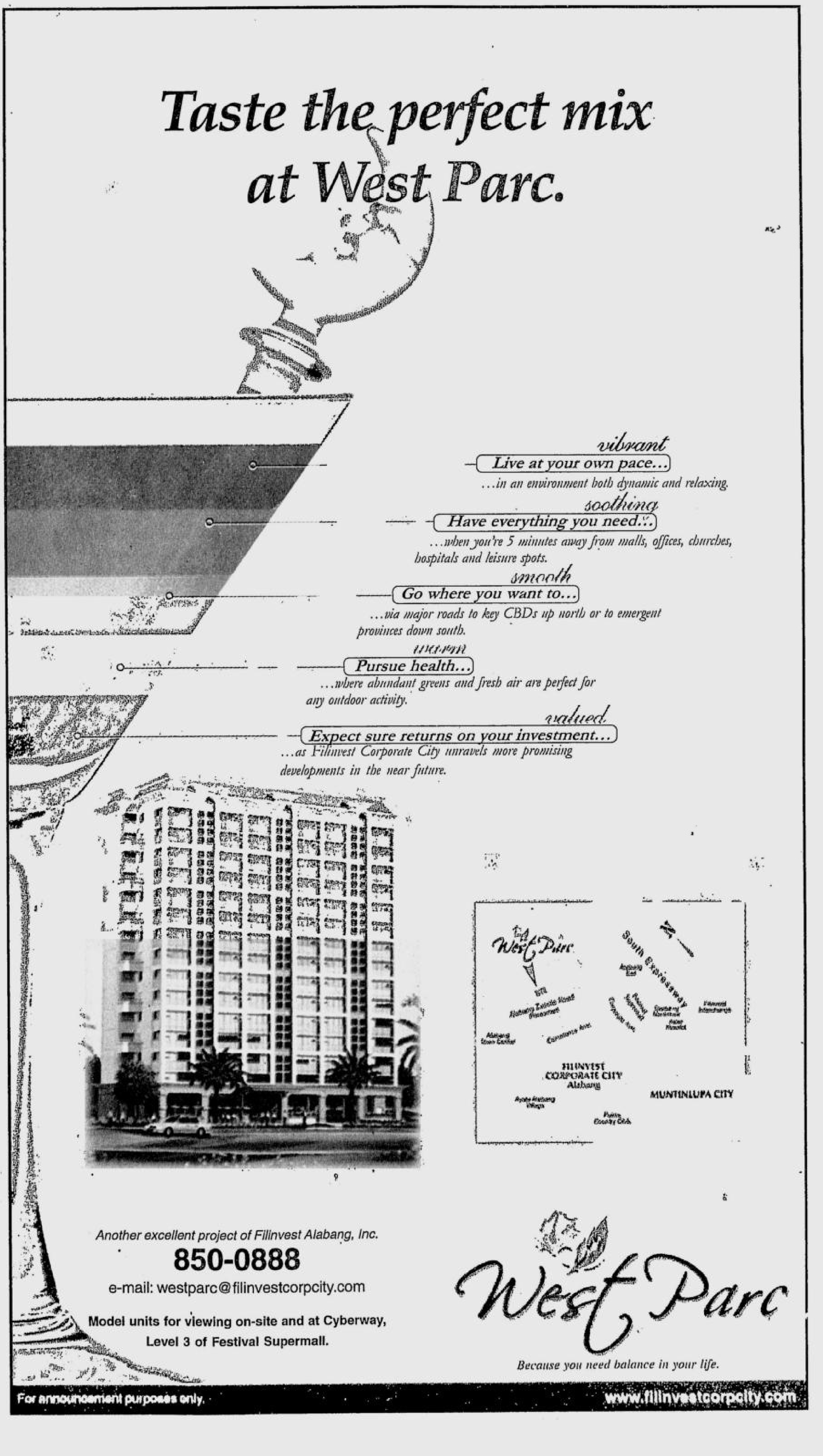

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Gold, mirth and franchising

Text by Rowena C. Burgos
Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan

FIGARO'S Barako Blend and Barako Gold

> More and more Filipino trademarks are being franchised, a sure sign that the entrepreneurial fire is spreading

TIKS Dula-Laurel, chair of the Association of Filipino Franchisers Inc. and president and CEO of Cater King Food Corporation, which operates Goto King

THE UBIQUITY of franchised businesses shows the growth of Pinoy entrepreneurship. One of the fastest-growing segments of Filipino business, franchising is ideal for the aspiring entrepreneur. When you buy a franchise, you not only buy the right to a trademark and product, you obtain a partner that has substantial business knowledge and skills and financial strength.

For entrepreneurs, franchising provides an affordable means of accelerating expansion and achieving development goals with less risk.

That is because instead of starting your business from scratch, you will run a business with a track record, says Butz Bartolome, director of the Association of Filipino Franchisers Inc. (AFFI) and president of GMB Franchise Developers.

"You are in business for yourself but not by yourself," says Chit Juan, AFFI president and director of Figaro Coffee Company. "Whether it's accounting and financing, advertising and public relations, personnel management, purchasing or inventory control, franchisors are there to provide hands-on, one-to-one assistance."

But while franchising does provide great opportunities, it does not create miracles, says Tiks Dula-Laurel, AFFI chair and president and CEO of Cater King Food Corporation, which operates Goto King and Mama Rosa. "One must combine knowledge and resources with entrepreneurial drive and spirit."

Opportunities

More entrepreneurs are discovering franchising opportunities, thanks to increasing recruitment efforts by companies such as Goto King, Figaro and Lots' a Pizza, which are all members of AFFI.

Franchises are gaining ground on the old independent start-up model for companies. Tried-and-true business practices, training and an established brand with years in the market often promise a greater chance of success than a new name, product or concept, Juan said.

The rate of return on investment, too, is greater as franchisees usually receive training, administrative assistance and marketing support from parent companies bent on making every outlet successful.

"It's very difficult to award your first franchise, your own concept," Juan says. "It's like lending your baby to a neighbor. Learning from other franchisers, I developed the confidence to franchise."

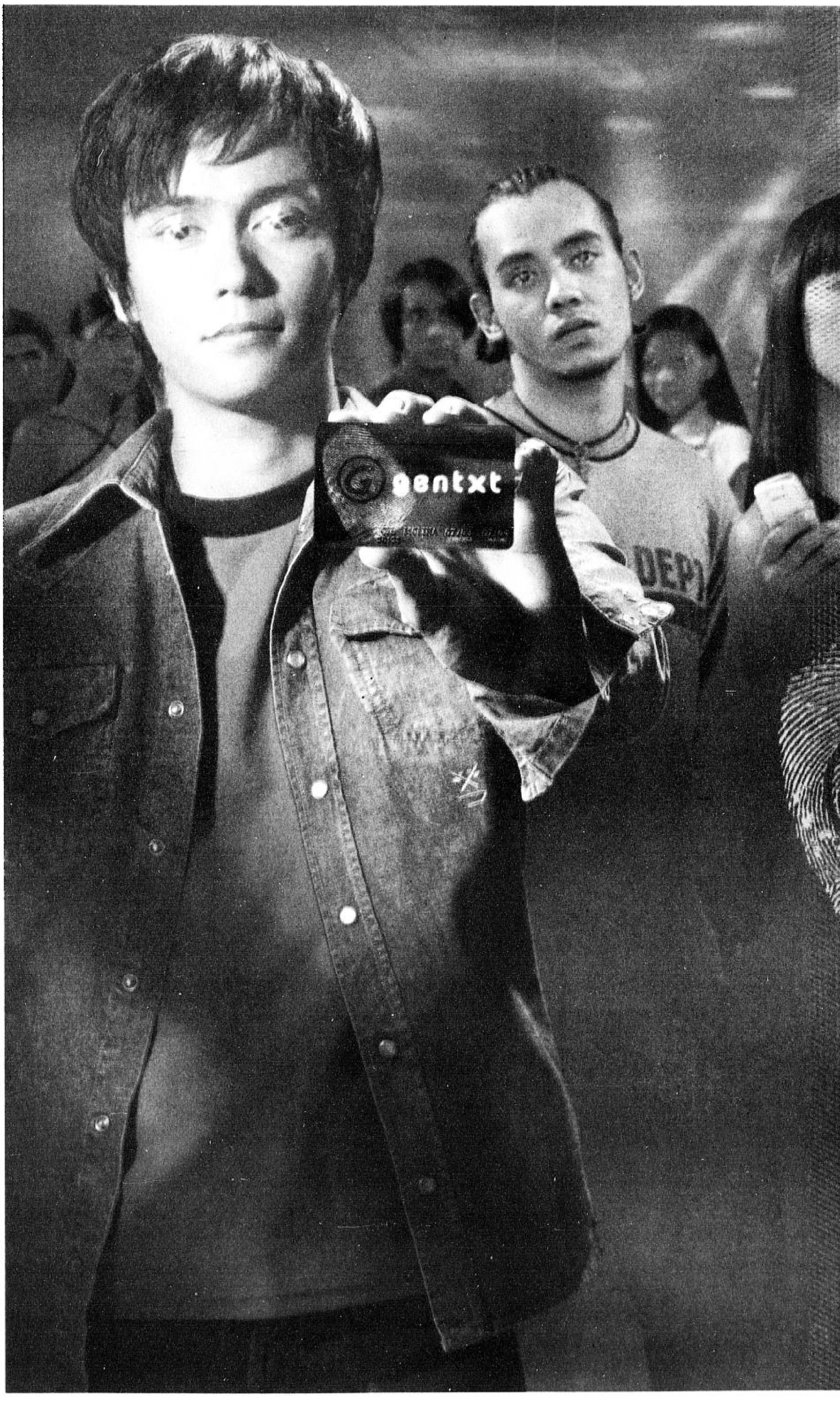
The Figaro Coffee Company was established in 1993 with two employees, a managing partner, and a kiosk at the Ayala Center in Makati. For 10 years now, the store has been offering coffee and tea paraphernalia and freshly-ground, flavored coffee beans.

The company started its franchise development in 1996. After two years, it opened its first franchise, a cart, in Megamall. Today, Figaro has 30 outlets.

"The success of a dream was not overnight. It took a lot of courage and determination to move forward during the growing years. But the asset of the company is the partnership—the individual strengths of each partner, making the company dynamic, exciting, solid and truly dedicated to excellence and satisfaction," Juan says.

Bedrock practices

Successful players in franchising, like those who prosper in any other industry, have dis-

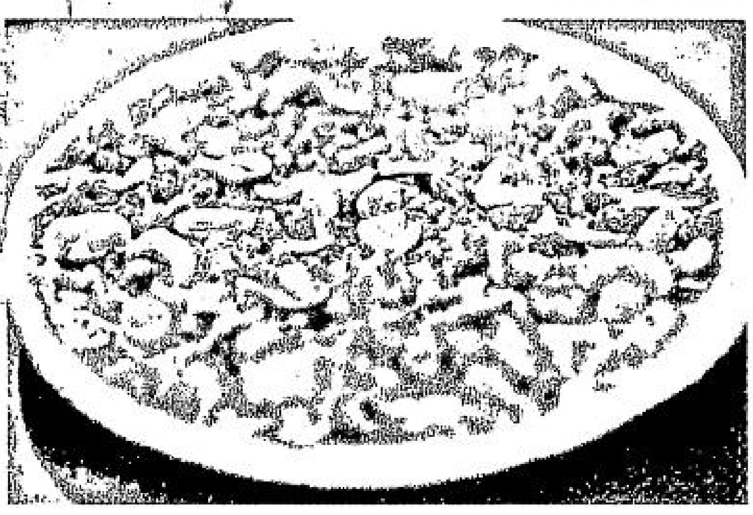


TERESITA Ngan Tian, Filipino Franchise Week chair and vice president, treasurer and operations manager of Lots' a Pizza

CHIT Juan, president of the Association of Filipino Franchisers Inc. and director of Figaro Coffee Company

AFFI OFFICERS: (From left) Tiks Dula-Laurel, chair; Teresita Ngan Tian, trade show chair; Butz Bartolome, director; and Chit Juan, president

LOTS' a Pizza's Great Manhattan



covered that the bedrock business practices are analyzing, planning and preparing.

"With Goto King, we really plan," Laurel says. "Before we started franchising in 1994, we attended seminars abroad. But when we got to know more about the industry, the more we became nervous. We were prepared to franchise at that time and yet scared."

"It's not just Filipino food we were going to sell but the Philippines, so we had to come up with good marketing strategies."

Cater King began as a single proprietorship in 1976, catering to select clients and selling *goto* to students in Manila's university belt. In 1984, it opened a kiosk at SM food court in Cubao, Quezon City, which led to the establishment of 40 Goto King outlets in all SM food courts and supermarkets in Metro Manila, Pampanga, Cebu and Davao.

In 1989, Cater King launched the processed Filipino food products under the brand name Mama Rosa, which are sold in the company's key outlets and delis and even exported abroad. In 1999, the first Mama Rosa fine dining restaurant opened in Quezon City. The following year, its second outlet opened in Eastwood City Walk in Libis, QC.

"Professionalizing the franchising industry remains a challenge," Laurel says. "Every franchisee has its own management style. Goto King's franchisees, for instance, include a neurosurgeon who already has four stores, a graduate of Wharton School of Business, two graduates of the Asian Institute of Management and a graduate of the London School of Economics. Even though they come from good business schools, it doesn't mean that they'll be successful in selling *goto*."

"Making a company grow the franchising way means espousing the tenets of responsible franchising," Juan says. "Quality control is paramount. If you're lending your name, you'll do everything and go to all lengths to protect that name."

Professionalizing the industry

AFFI was formed in 1997 under the name First Filipino Franchise Federation by a group of enterprising persons who were behind such companies as Figaro, Fiorgelato, Goto King, Metropole, Potato Corner and GMB Franchise Developers.

The group now has 36 members. A non-stock, non-profit national organization which aims to professionalize the homegrown franchising industry, AFFI instills the importance of quality and consistency.

"The following year, we changed its name to AFFI because a federation is composed of different associations. Basically, we just want to have responsible members," Bartolome says.

According to Laurel, members should be home-grown small and medium companies. "There are really no rules in screening a franchisee. When you come down to it, it's really character."

But AFFI emphasizes service at every turn. Franchisers and franchisees succeed only if they keep their eye on pleasing the customer.

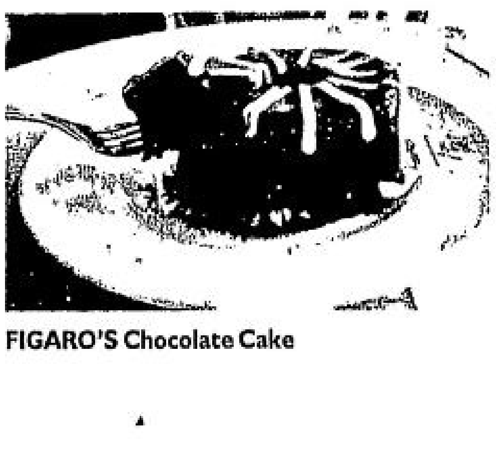
Laurel's Cater King, for example, has an audit group that goes around its franchised stores and another group that goes around the company-owned outlets. "The companies are graded and we meet the audit group every quarter on the franchisee evaluation. We go an extra mile by also evaluating industrial relations."

But for Bartolome, the key to success is doing something one really enjoys.

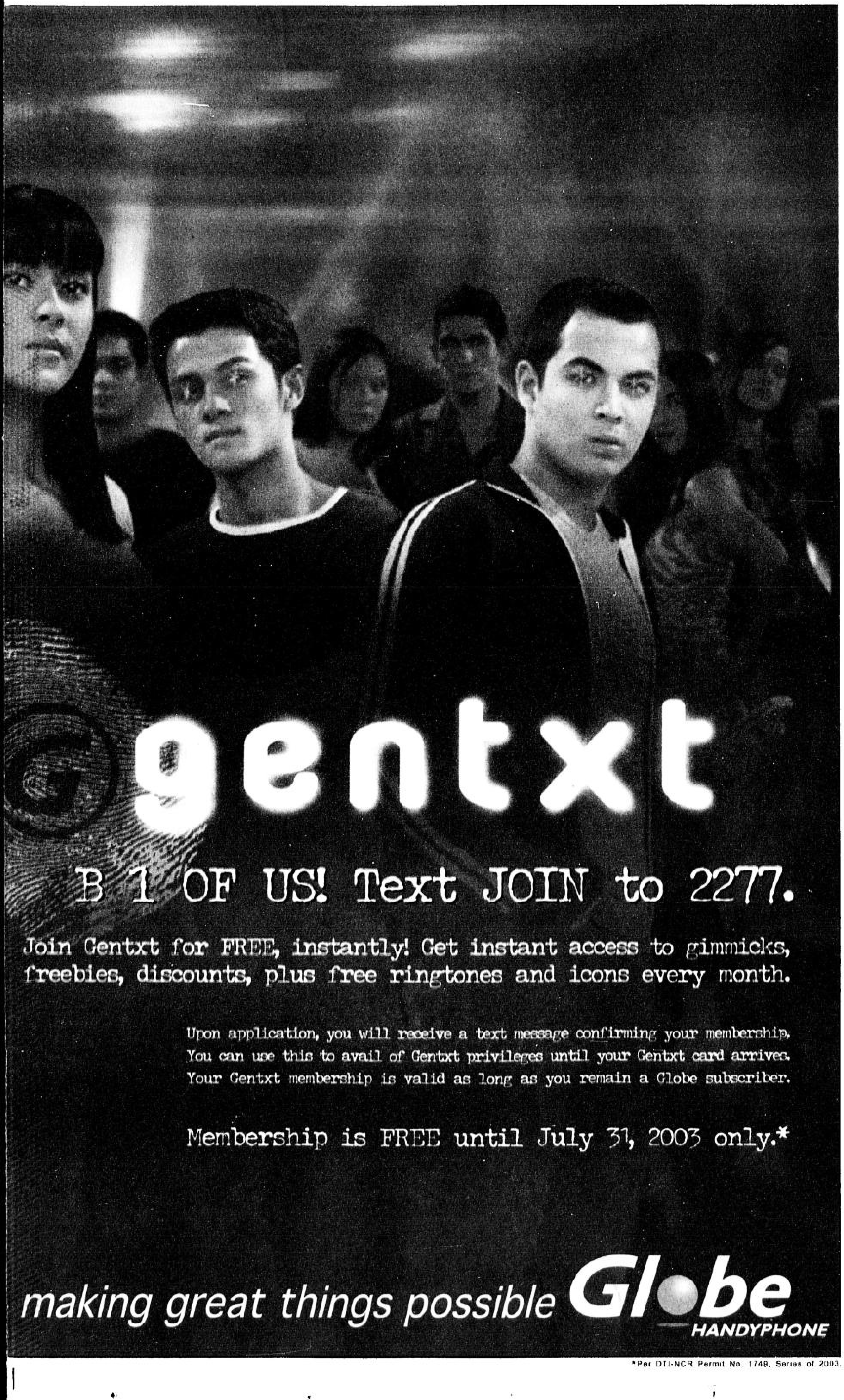
"Don't go after money; go after what you really like, then go find the best of it. Once you find the best, be committed to making it work."

AFFI will hold the 2nd Filipino Franchise Week on July 20-27 at Megatrade Hall, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong. Call 890-1423 to 24.

E-mail the author at rburgos@inquirer.com.ph



FIGARO'S Chocolate Cake



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PHILIPPINE national team with coach Valentin "Butch" Oreta (at the back, in orange shirt) JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

Badminton makes a mean comeback

From page D1

also improved their cardio endurance, hand-eye coordination and flexibility. "I could make you perspire in five minutes, provided you get all my shuttle," Oreta says.

The 54-year-old Oreta has been playing badminton since he was 8. He says he's been lucky that his family loved the sport and had a badminton court in their backyard when he was little. His early training led him to compete professionally. (His latest triumph was last year, when he won the singles and doubles titles in the US Open OCBC/Yonex veteran tourney in California, where he competed against 18 countries.)

Oreta remembers the good old days when the Philippines was exporting badminton players; those were the times when the now-formidable Taiwan had a Filipino as its champion player for years. The surprise comeback of badminton prompted Oreta to promise to PBA president Ming Ramos that the country would develop new talents in five years.

"*Napapaligiran kami ng* world powers [in badminton], such as China, Malaysia, Thailand, Japan and Taiwan," he says. Oreta says he and his team are hopeful of bringing home the bronze from the Southeast Asian Games in Vietnam this December.

The drill

Oreta spends his mornings from Monday to Friday manning the 11-member national team at the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex in Manila. He drills and trains the team every day. "[Training] should be the same whether you're playing for leisure or professionally. It's only natural to want to excel once you get into this game."

Daily training for the team includes aerobics for cardiovascular endurance (jogging around the oval for 20 minutes), 40-minute weight training for strength and anaerobic stamina training. "Badminton involves many jerking movements, that's why I have recently added anaerobic training to their daily regimen," he says.

Anaerobic training is not characterized by regular, rhythmic breathing the way jogging is. It is marked by stops and go's with no continuous ventilation and rhythmic breathing. Players are ordered to shadow-play for, say, one or two minutes, simulating badminton movements.

For developing an agile body, which Oreta cannot seem to emphasize enough, the secret lies in strong abs and back. Sure, the abs act as the body's stabilizer, but there's more to strong abs than meets the eye. Badminton involves many lateral movements at different levels of difficulty, often executed rapidly. "Just do your crunches religiously and you'll benefit from their result. The abs and back play important roles in lateral movement," Oreta says.

Common badminton injuries such as ankle sprain, tennis elbow, pulled muscle, heels and knee injury, and neck whiplash, according to Oreta, can be avoided with adequate warm-up, proper posture and correct execution of swings.

Age shouldn't hinder anyone from playing badminton because one plays in the same age group. Just ask Paul Newman. He reportedly still plays.

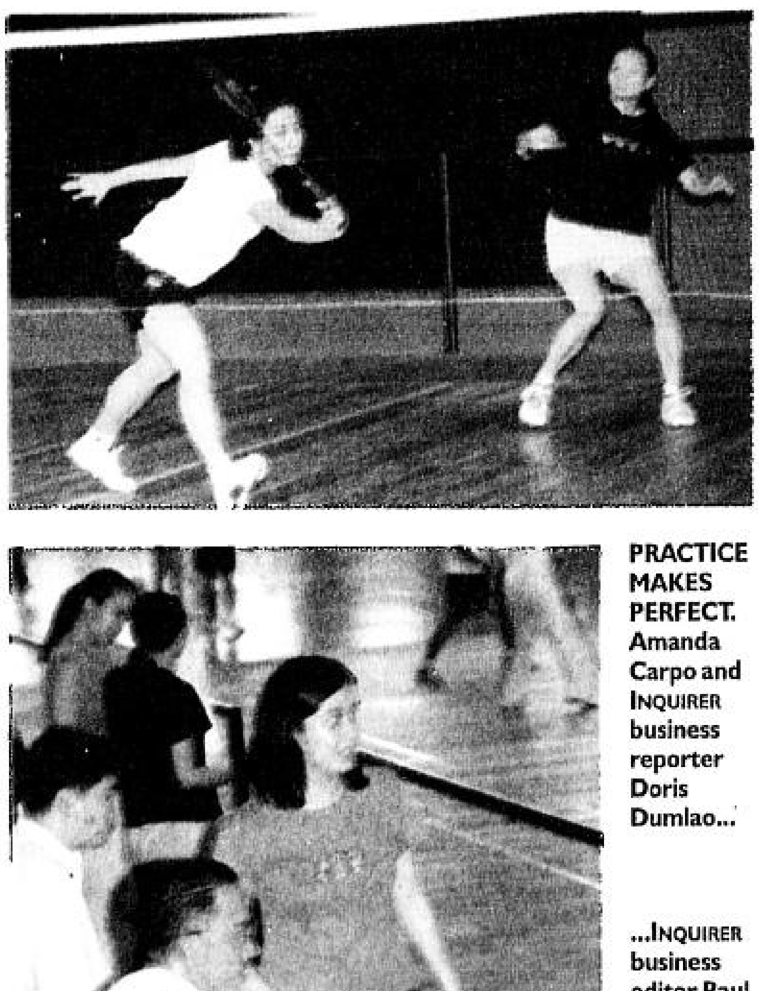
E-mail the author at ajambora@inquirer.com.ph

INQUIRER president and former member of the Philippine badminton national team Sandy Prieto-Romualdez and Judith Lim

Filipinos are huffing and puffing on the court, relearning the game they mastered and won several world tournaments for some decades back

MALAYSIAN trainer Joseph Langie

BEAUTY queen Gem Padilla



PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT. Amanda Carpo and **INQUIRER** business reporter Doris Dumlao...

...**INQUIRER** business editor Raul Marcelo (seated) and business reporter Elena Torrijos

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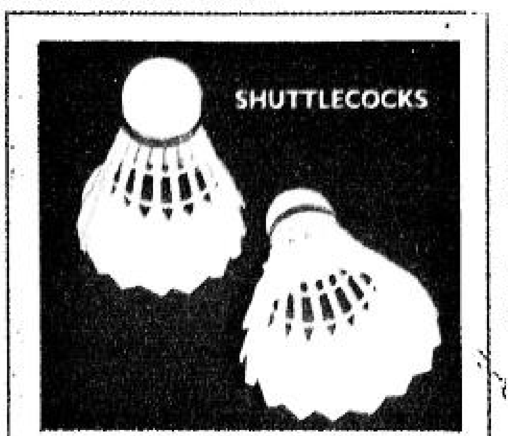
PHILIPPINE Badminton Association president and former First Lady Ming Ramos



Staying in vogue with badminton

SHOPPING for badminton gear can be a dizzying experience, especially when you are confronted by rows upon rows of racquets, strings, shuttles and grips—each claiming to be the best buy ever.

When choosing a racquet, Philippine national team coach Butch Oreta says it's always best to go for branded names such as Yonex, Dunlop and Carlton. Brands have names and reputations to keep, and therefore they try to deliver what they promise. "Proven and tested *na kasi yung mga* branded racquets. *Hindi ka malalagay sa alanganin kaya* it's a worthwhile investment," he says.

But that's not to say you should buy the most expensive gear around. Oreta says players must first know what they want and what they need before making a purchase. "There are many kinds of racquets, but generally it's either top-heavy or top-light. Choose whichever performs best for you."

If you want light racquets, go for graphite (expensive) or aluminum (a less expensive alternative). Titanium, although stiff and not as flexible, is for those seeking durability. Some brands mix both graphite and titanium—very flexible (it actually bends), but durable. Of course, they come with a hefty price tag, too. For beginners and conservative spenders, there's steel and carbon. Price range for racquets go as low as P200 to as high as P15,000. Other brands sell them as a set, too, good for two players with one shuttle.

Another aspect to consider is the string. While there are many variations of badminton strings, Oreta says string tension is what counts. If your game needs more control, go for 20-22 tension. If you want more power, buy strings that can hold 30-32 tension.

"If you're not used to using one, *ang dating ng bola ay* boardy *dahil madulas yung* ball *sa* gut. Besides, high-tension strings can easily damage the racquet. Unless *mayabang ka, okay lang*," Oreta says.

Tension

For leisurely games and beginners, however, he recommends tension that gives control. "*Mararamdaman mo yung lundol ng* gut *sa bola*—better control, especially *sa* netting."

Strings come in three types: Nylon, synthetic gut and titanium, with varying gauges. The rule of thumb is the lower the gauge, the thinner the string and the better the playability. Still, it all boils down to what suits your game best. Price range is between P200 and P300.

The third consideration is the shuttlecock, for which Oreta follows a golden rule—always use the top model, the first class. Yes, it's more expensive, he says, but these shuttles not only execute the correct flight, they last longer as well. "Any brand will do as long as you buy the first class."

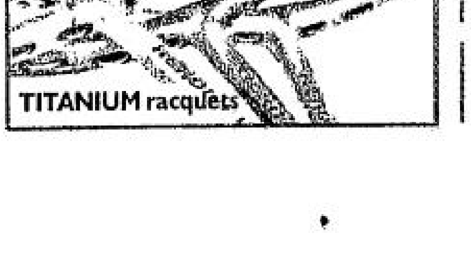
And here's a valuable tip to make those shuttles last *really* long: Dip the feathers in water at least once a month. Make sure the water doesn't reach the cork. Remove from water and wiggle the shuttle, and use it after five minutes. "Due to the moisture content, *kumukunat yung* feathers. Do that and your shuttle will last a lot longer," Oreta says. Never put the shuttle inside the fridge, as this only makes it dry, which eventually leads to brittleness.

Shuttles are either plastic or feather, with the former performing better outdoors. Sold individually or in boxes, they are offered in Grades 1, 2 and 3. Generally, the higher the grade, the better the shuttle. Price range is between P400 and P1,000 per box, while single shuttles range from P30 to P70.

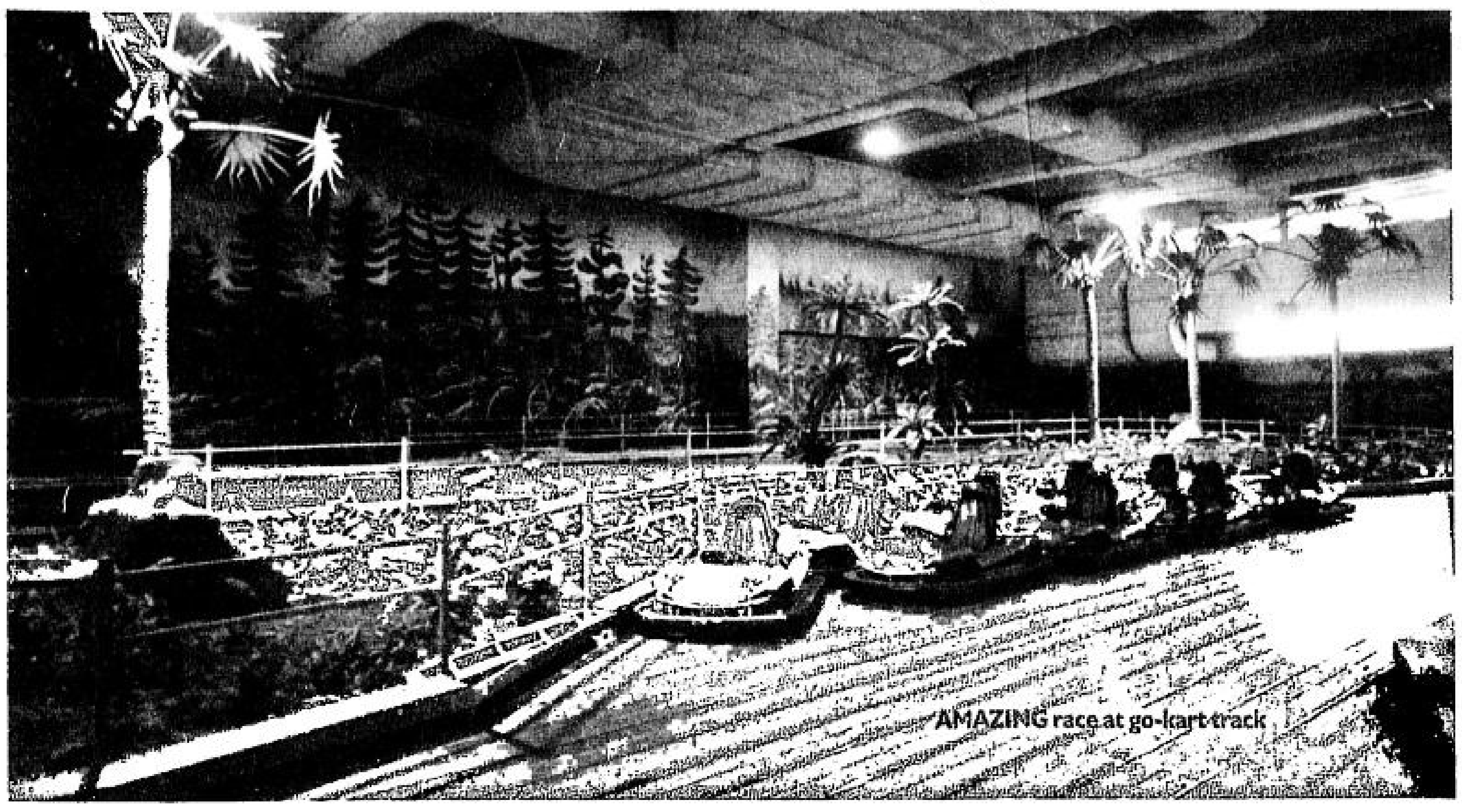
And there's the grip, either for replacement or towel (in case your palm sweats during a game). Grip choice depends on the player. Some people prefer a wide grip while others want a narrow one, so choose a thick or thin grip.

For shoes, pick those that have rubber soles to prevent slipping on the court. Carlton, Yonex, Puma and Prince have shoes designed especially for badminton, ranging from P2,000 to P4,000. *Anne Jambora*

Price quotes courtesy of Toby's

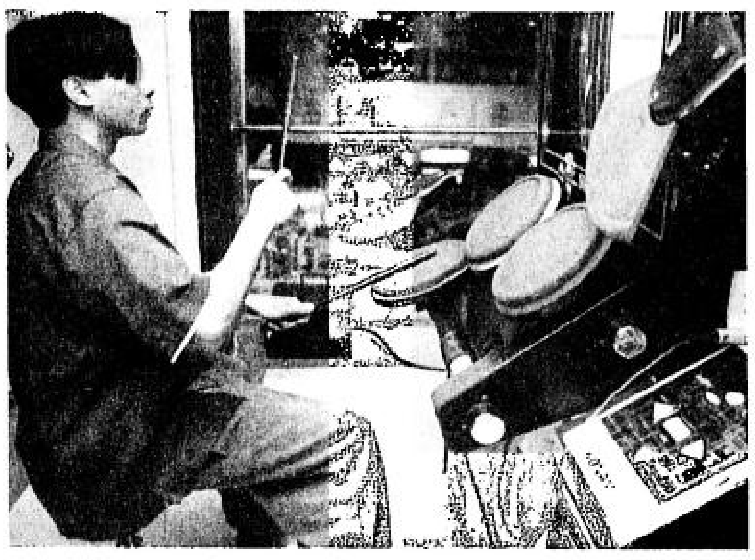


TITANIUM racquets



AMAZING race at go-kart track

MORE video games for tweeners and teeners



BUDDING percussionist gets his turn.

Indoor 'playground' offers as much thrill and adventure as outdoors

Text by Vangie Baga-Reyes
Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan

AFTER three months of renovation and refurbishment, a brighter, livelier and more activity-filled indoor family amusement and entertainment center is again attracting mall goers, including whole families, to Robinsons Place Manila.

Dream Zone, formerly known as Dream Town, has a bigger space for its action-packed video arcade, kiddie rides and other leisure activities.

"Dream Zone has now evolved into a modern and expansive amusement center that features a variety of activities and attractions for the whole family," says Dollie Bufi, Robinsons Recreation Corporation director for marketing. Indeed, Dream Zone is casting its spell on people who prefer a cool and comfortable indoor amusement park to open-air leisure places outside the metropolis.

Entire families, not just the children, can have all the fun and adventure they want at the sprawling recreation center on the third level of Robinsons Place in Ermita, Manila. The 6,700-sq m, two-level establishment is the country's largest amusement center inside a mall. The large space allowed the setting up not just of the rides, game machines and redemption booths, but also of retail shops (clothes and accessories).

The first level is filled with coin-operated kiddie rides. The rides are in the shapes of animals and objects like small airplanes, cars, and boats, and simulate some of the sounds and noises they make, much to the delight of children.

There may be no train, ferris wheel, roller coaster and caterpillar rides anymore, but there are other adrenaline-pumping rides for the young. A consistent crowd-drawer is the Amazing Racers, where speed enthusiasts can fantasize about being race car drivers by competing in friendly but thrilling and stimulating go-kart contests.

Adventure's Arena features the XIXA model-sized bumper cars that are large enough for adults. Wind Rider is a modern and bigger version of the octopus with 14 arms instead of eight. Riders control the movement of their own "cars," making the ride more participatory and interactive. Elmer's Dream is a fun ride designed for both adults and children. The entire family can enjoy the whirling, tilting and revolving of the gondolas.

Targeting the young

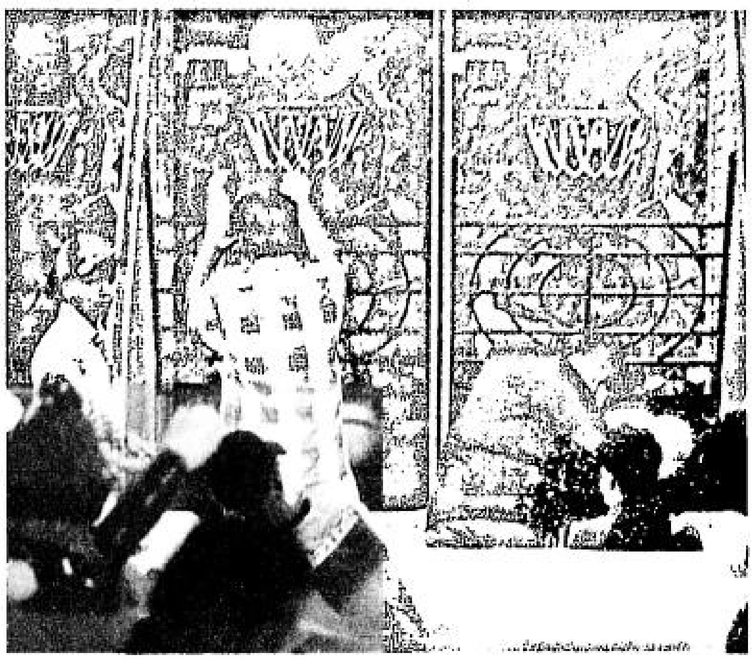
With the recent renovation, Dream Zone hopes to attract also teenaged mall visitors who have no place to go to or hang around. While their little brothers are having fun on the first floor of the amusement center, teeners can play their own "games" in the second level which has, among others, the video arcade and videoke rooms.

Dream Zone has 26 private videoke rooms and two open videoke areas with microphone stands for budding singers. Each videoke room has see-through glass windows, allowing others to take a peep at the "performers" inside.

DOLLIE Bufi, Robinsons Recreation Corp. director for marketing, and Andy Arevalo, director for operations

CHALLENGE for the hand-eye coordination skills of young family members

Families can bond while having fun in the new and improved Dream Zone



BRIGHTER and livelier activities for kids of all ages

The arcade has state-of-the-art videos and games. Three of the country's biggest video arcade operators—G-Box, Quantum and Flask Back—provide popular arcade and network games. They also help operate the redemption booths, token-operated kiddie rides and videoke rooms.

"Dream Zone stands out because of the diversity of its games and other leisure amenities," says Andy Arevalo, Robinsons Recreation Corporation director for operations. "We now have more games and dedicated machines for the young market unlike before when most of our facilities were just for kids. Still, there is something for every member of the family, young and old alike."

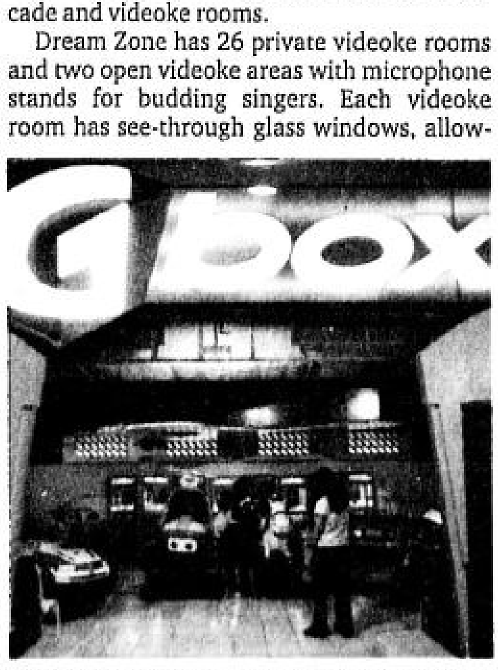
The video arcade has about 400 games machines, including Sega, Daytona, Counter Strike, Ninja Assault, Silent Scope, Punch Mania, Drum Mania, Time Crisis, House of the Dead, and basketball games.

Redemption booths offer a wide array of prizes ranging from stuffed toys and Play Station to home appliances like pro players and colored television sets. Food kiosks serve snacks for those who want to fortify themselves before a game or recharge their batteries after all the exertion.

"And this is just the beginning of the fun," adds Arevalo. "More attractions are underway, and the place will soon be able to accommodate big groups and private parties. Major expansion is in the works. We'll continue to expand and develop to keep up with the times and even a bit ahead of other indoor theme parks."

Dream Zone's location makes it easily accessible to urban dwellers and those from nearby provinces, rain or shine.

E-mail the author at vbaga@inquirer.com.ph



THE AMUSEMENT center's first level is filled with coin-operated kiddie rides.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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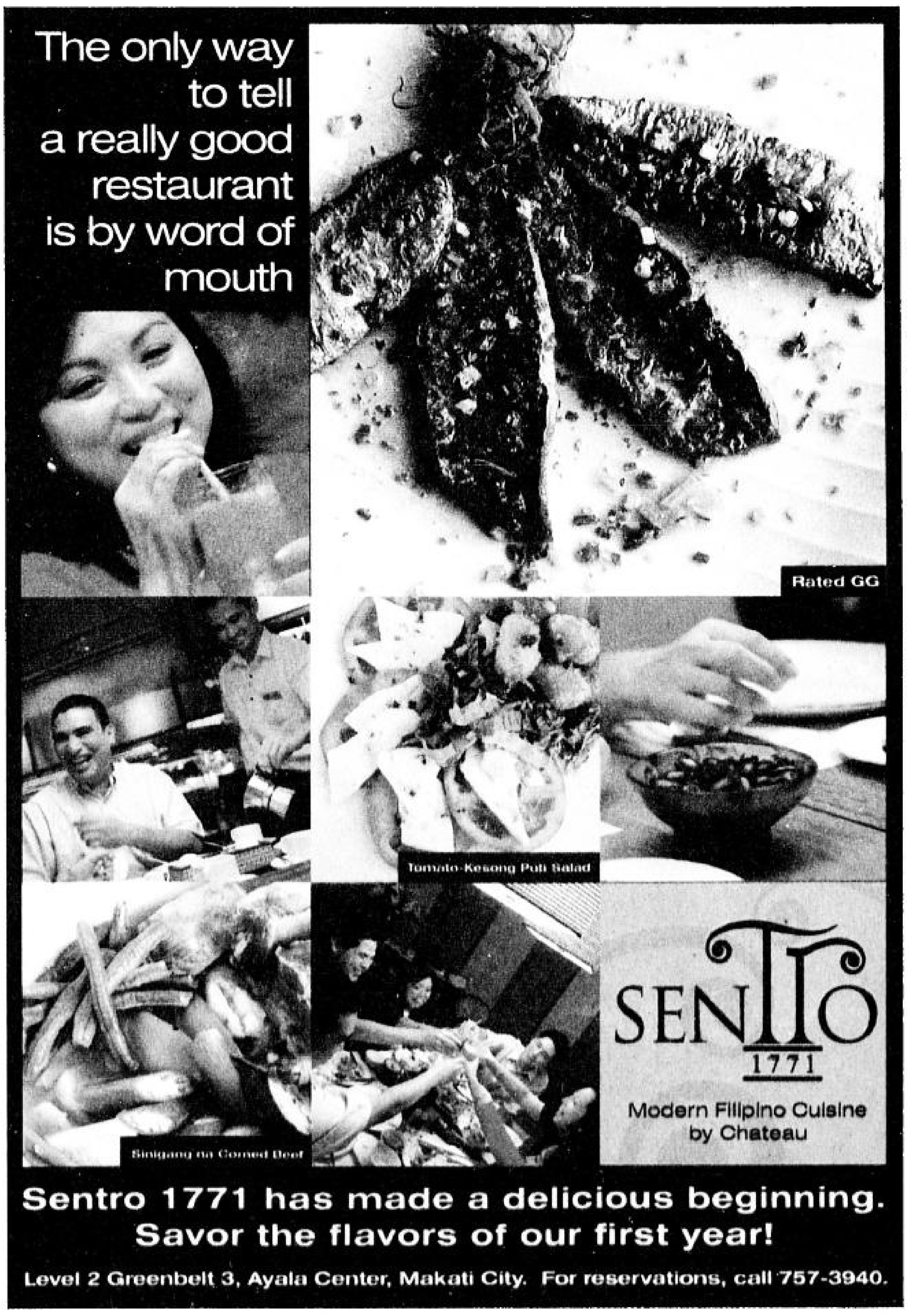

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

PHOTOS: MONIQUE SR VILLONCO

JOSE LLANA

Brown and big on Broadway

PLAYTIME

By the Staff

AFTER LEA Salonga, Jose Llana is perhaps the most recognizable Filipino name on Broadway.

He was only 18 when he landed the major role of Lun Tha, Tuptim's lover, in the Broadway revival of "The King and I" in 1994. It was a good year for Filipino-American actors. Lou Diamond Philips, easily the most dominant Filipino actor in Hollywood, played the King; also in the cast was Paolo Montalban, who would soon be chosen by Whitney Houston to play the Asian Prince Charming to the Cinderella of the Afro-American Brandy in the multicultural television production of the famous fairy tale.

Llana proved that his break on Broadway was no fluke. He got good reviews when he won the role of Gabey, the role popularized by Gene Kelly, in "On the Town." He appeared on the TV sitcom "Sex and the City." And last year, he returned to Broadway opposite no less than Salonga in "The Flower Drum Song," revised and updated by David Hwang of "M Butterfly" fame. Later this year, Llana is joining the production's US road tour.

In Manila to record an album under Viva Records (where he has duets with Cris Villonco, Bituin Escalante and Sharon Cuneta), 27-year-old Llana has whipped up a storm for his powerful stage presence and performance in concerts, TV shows, fund-raisers and parties, such as the birthday bash for Gift Gate's Virgie Ramos, who promptly sent Llana three Swatch watches.

Have you always been singing?

When I was a kid, I was the boy soprano in our school in Virginia. And they'd always give me the solos. It was always a fun thing.

Do you like it when they ask you to sing?

I love it. I have a great family. I've been very lucky on Broadway for about eight years now. I'm one of the lucky people in the world who gets paid for what he loves to do. I can't complain. The second I don't enjoy it anymore, I'd be an engineer or something. I only don't like it when I'm tired and they ask me to sing anyway. That's when I really put my foot down and say no. But it's hard to say no, especially here (laughter). Everybody sings.

How were you discovered?

I was a freshman in college and they were auditioning for "The King and I" on Broadway. I didn't have an agent yet. I wanted to sing for them, but if you didn't have an agent you'd have to go to what we call a cattle call where 500 people come in and you only have half a minute to sing something. And I didn't want that. So I went to a union call, an equity call, and pretended to be somebody else. I walked into the room and the picture of the person I was pretending to be was faced down on the table. I sang to them and they found out that it wasn't me. But they were very impressed.

What did you sing?

The song from the show, "I Have Dreamed." That's what you usually do when you audition for a Broadway show. You sing something from the show. That was March, my freshman year in school. And that summer they offered me to do my first show.

You took up music in New York?

At the Music Conservatory.

Before that, did you have formal lessons?

I've been taking voice lessons since I was 14. I think it's important. I still do in New York. I really believe I'm a different singer today at 27 from when I was 19. I'm not the best singer but I hope I can be better next year than I am this year. That's why I still take classes.

Have you studied acting?

You have to. To work on Broadway these days, you never play a part without acting a little bit or dancing a little bit. You have to work, so you have to make sure that you know how.

I always thought that Lun Tha was older. But you were a freshman in college when you got that role.

Exactly. When you look at the ["The King and I"] story, Tuptim and Lun Tha are 15 and 16. In the original book they are young. But Lun Tha was always played by an older man because, historically, on Broadway and whenever they did the movies, they couldn't find people trained to sing for that role unless they were older. The guy in the movie was, like, in

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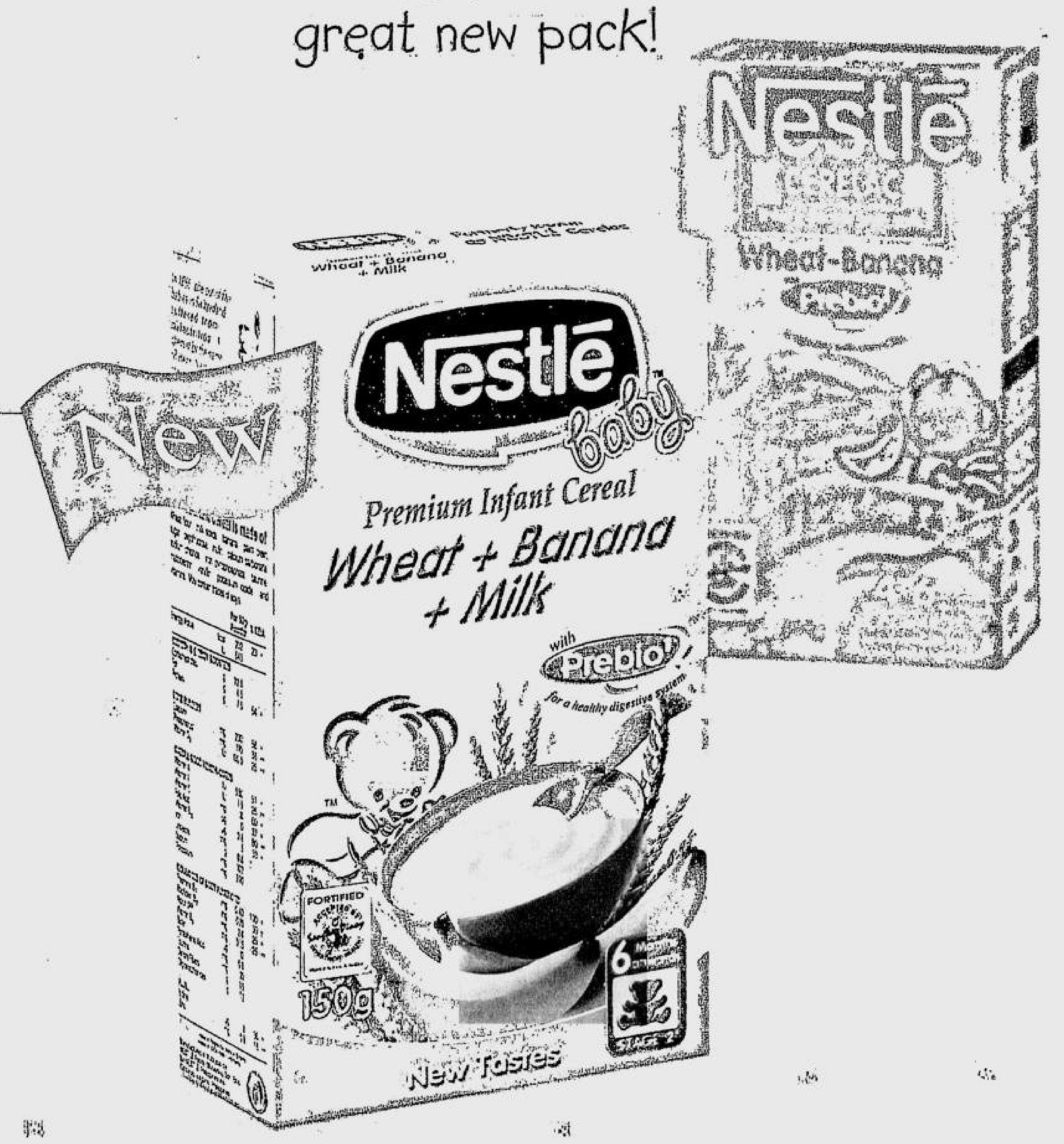

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Brown and big on Broadway

From page E1

his 40s. But the trained singers on Broadway are getting younger because people are going to conservatories to study opera at 18 or 19.

Who played the King?

Lou Diamond Philips. And he was young. People just associate the King with Yul Brynner, but the king is supposed to be a young king, in his late 20s to early 30s. Which makes Tuptim and Lun Tha even younger. We were all age-appropriate. (Laughter)

What was it like working with Lou Diamond Philips?

It was great. He's one of my mentors. He started working when he was 19 in a theater in Texas, so he gave me a lot of good advice.

So he started in theater, not the movies?

Yeah. I hope that every actor tries to do theater. Acting on TV and film is so different. He gave me some really good advice. He always tells me to treat people nicely no matter who they are, how big they are, and you can never go wrong.

Did you find it difficult to adjust to acting on TV or film?

No. I think as long as you see each one as an opportunity to grow and to act. The very few times that I've worked on TV were fun. "Sex and the City" was fun. I got to play this outrageous character with no line (laughter). But I had a lot of camera time and I got to meet Sarah Jessica Parker and hang out with her. I think TV and film are a lot different from theater. I'm a theater nut. I love theater and it's something I'll always get back to.

Did they also style you and make you wear expensive clothes?

Actually, it looks like I'm wearing expensive clothes but those are my clothes. And it was funny because when I went to the costume fittings I thought they'd put me into a lot of clothes. But they just told me that my character is a fashion designer assistant. And they said, We'd love if you brought in clothes that you think your character would wear that you wear yourself.

So I brought in a lot of black clothes and some of the high-end fashion clothes that I own, and I ended up wearing my own clothes on the show. They just gave me some glasses and styled my hair up a bit.

The odd thing is, "Sex and the City" is all about fashion, but all the money for fashion goes to the four women. The others wear their own clothes (laughter). Because it's cable and there's not much money in cable.

How did you get the part in "Sex and the City?" Did you audition?

Yeah. I have an agent but everyone has to audition. They have to know if you're right for the part or not. I actually auditioned for another part for the pilot. I wasn't right for the part but had so much fun in the auditions and there was a lot of laughing. And they called me the next day and the director said we don't want you for the part you auditioned for, but we're gonna write a character for you. You're going to be a fashion designer assistant and just stand next to her. They wrote the part for me, so that was nice.

Are you part of the union?

Oh yeah. The second you work on Broadway, you have to join. You can't work in any medium without joining the union.

So far, what have you found most peculiar in the entertainment industry here?

I think the biggest thing I have to get used to here is time. It's very frustrating. What I've been taught by every teacher in the States is, whether you're an actor, a journalist, a lawyer, everything—the first rule of professionalism is punctuality. If I'm a real busy person with schedules at 1, 4 and 7 p.m., if I'm late for the 1 p.m., I'll be late for the 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. and I will have disrespected all those people [I'm meeting with].

If I tell someone that I'll be there, I'll be there. And that's hard to get used to here. When I go to a TV taping, and they've told us to be there at 5, we are there by 5 and nothing happens until 7. It's hard not to get angry. But I'm getting used to it. I bring a book, I bring magazines. (Laughter)

Don't you know how to text? That's how people pass the time here. (Laughter)

I do, but I don't want to pass the time because I'm only here for two months.

You want to make the most of it.

Yeah. I only have a certain amount of time to do something and I want to do as much as I can, you know. With my friends in the States, I'm notorious. I love having three really busy days and one day of nothing.

So you cram everything into those three days.

Yeah, so I can relax on the fourth day. I don't want to do just one thing in one day. I do six things in one day and four things the next day. And here it's, like, hard.

You were 3 when you left, so you were hardly here. Do you remember anything?

We stayed with my grandparents in Cabugao (Ilocos). I do remember that, it's really weird. My parents left first, and my *ate* and I were left here. My *ate* is two years older [than me]. She now lives in Boston with her husband. We went to high school together in Virginia. Then she went to MIT.

Do you have a problem with your Tagalog?

I think reading and singing it are fine for me. It's the conversation every day. Maybe with some time I'll pick up more. But I understand Tagalog.

Do you understand everything?

Opo. Except when it's too fast. My parents spoke Tagalog to us when we were growing up. It was very important to them.

After "King and I," what did you do?

I did a show called "On the Town" in Central Park. It's a musical. I played the Gene Kelly role, Gabey. We were three sailors. That was a big deal job for me.

So was there a lot of dancing since it's Gene Kelly?

Yeah, I did a lot of dancing. The Wall Street Journal gave me a really nice review. They compared me to Gene Kelly.

That job was very important. Because "King and I" was my first job and I was there for about a year. It was an Asian show and my parents and I were ready for me not to find a job after that. The director was George Wolfe [who won a lot of Tonys for "Angels in America"]. He had this very classic New York show set in 1940s about three sailors running around New York, and he made the lead character, Gabey, Fil-American.

It's a very Caucasian cast and there was no reason to make the Gene Kelly role Filipino-American. But he did it because he liked my voice, he liked my dancing. And that was a big deal for me.

There was a lot of exposure, a lot of press in New York and in the trade papers. You know, "George Wolfe casts unknown, young Asian-American male as Gabey." And that for me was the start of my career. It was when directors, writers and producers in New York began to see that they're allowed to cast ethnic people in roles meant for Caucasian people, for African-American people, or roles meant for Latinos.

So "The King and I" and "The Flower Drum Song" I did seven years apart, and were the only Asian shows I did. Everything else in between I was playing a Caucasian role, I was playing an African-American role, a Latino role. And I was very thankful for that. That's what sort of defined my career in theater on Broadway.

'Now that I've actually become someone on Broadway and I'm auditioning for shows, when the director is picking for a Caucasian role and they bring in 10 people and me, that director is gonna remember me'

CLOTHES: BERGAMO; WATCHES. SWATCH DIAPHANE FIRESTORM AND SWATCH NABAB DARK EMIR

Didn't the Caucasian actors find it insulting?

In all honesty, for every one person like me who gets cast in a white role, there are a hundred other white people getting cast in white roles, too, you know what I mean? (Laughter) It's not like everyone wanted that job. (Laughter)

But you got the plum role.

It's a statement. George Wolfe is gonna cast an ethnic person in the lead, of course, it's going to be a statement. But that's the beauty of theater. It's your show and you're the director, you can cast whoever you want.

And one day when a director casts a minority in a good role it doesn't have to be a statement.

Exactly. I think we're getting there; it's getting closer and closer to that point. And that's also why I stay in theater.

Have you always done musicals? You've never done straight plays?

I've done some straight plays as workshops and readings in New York, but mostly musicals because I can sing. Once they find out you can sing, they'll always keep you singing.

Are you a tenor or a baritone?

It depends on the music. I'm a baritone when it comes to classical music. But when I do certain musicals, I'm a tenor.

How are you in dancing?

I grew up dancing. My *ate* was the captain of our dance team in high school. She took ballet and jazz and I would watch.

It's hard to do any show without knowing how to dance a little bit. But the dancing in "On the Town" is hard. Eliot Feld was the choreographer and he was Baby John in the original "West Side Story." We had a lot of dancing in that show.

We were sailors dancing so [there was] a lot of jumps and a lot of slides. It was performed outside, so it was even hotter. But I was young, I was 20 years old. I guess you can ask anything from a 20-year-old.

With the success of "Moulin Rouge" and "Chicago," movie musicals seem to be making a comeback. Are you going to try for those?

Oh yeah, definitely. It's exciting especially this past year in the Oscars. With "Chicago" winning, there have been a lot of green lights. There's a lot of movies already being made now. They're already looking for onscreen musical theater talents to go in there. Especially with that happening, Asian-Americans are getting more and more into the mainstream.

How long did the "Flower Drum Song" run?

We opened in October until March. So that was about five months, which is actually a very healthy run for Broadway. Especially that season, we stayed open in January.

Do you have a girlfriend?

No.

When was your last relationship?

My last relationship was about a year ago. And when I went to L.A. it sort of fizzled out. I think it's hard because I'm young and right now, my focus in life is my career. It's hard to sort of ask anyone and say that I'll see you in six months, you know what I mean.

So in the six months that you're away, do you fool around?

That's why you end the relationship first (laughter).

Okay, now I get the drift. You break up so you can fool around.

Right (laughter). No, I mean you don't want to disrespect anybody. And the first thing to say is that I'm honest. Unless rings are being exchanged, my career is my focus right now.

I'm now in the Philippines for two months, so when I go back to New York, I start rehearsals for "Flower Drum." And I'll be living in hotels for the next six months, taking that to the West coast. It's sort of hard to sustain a relationship like that.

Being Filipinos, are your parents, overprotective? They don't call you every day?

Well, since I've been here, yes. But in New York, my parents raised me and my *ate* to be very independent. My sister and I always took care of each other.

When I was 18, I told my mom, "I'm not going to engineering school, I'm going to New York."

And how did your mom react?

Of course, every mom doesn't want you to be an actor first. They wanted me to be secure, they wanted to make sure that I could pay my rent. They raised me with this kind of confidence and independence. I think from that moment on, they treated us like adults. I think the second you get that respect from your parents, you have to respect yourself as an adult.

I remember when I got to "King and I," I was 18, I got my first studio apartment in New York and paid my own rent. It was scary. But what else are you going to do? Go home and fly to your mom? No, you just do it.

Does your mom mind when you kiss on stage? (Laughter)

No.

How about Lea's mom? (Laughter)

I've met Lea's mom, she's fine. I think during the past years, things have shifted for Lea. She doesn't spend every day with her mom anymore. So I got to know Lea and her mom in a different way that anyone else has.

And Lea and I, when we got to know each other, it was in Los Angeles and she was alone for the first time. And I think she did fine by herself.

Have you been discriminated against?

You know what, the first time you come to New York, they tell you the first thing you need to learn is not the acting, it's not the singing, it's not the dancing. It's to be able to put a mirror in front of your face and see what you are.

Growing up in Virginia, I was very lucky that I grew up around people that never judged me or were prejudiced against me because I was Asian-American. When I got to New York and started auditioning for shows, I remember I was told, "Oh, this isn't the ethnic call." And I was like, "Excuse me, I thought this is an open call." And they said, "No, no. Tomorrow is the ethnic call. You should come back for that." And I said, "You didn't even ask my name."

It's really hard. But I use it now to my advantage. Now that I've actually become someone on Broadway and I'm auditioning for shows, and the director is going to pick for a Caucasian role, they bring in 10 people and me. That director is gonna remember me.

How about Caucasians getting Asian roles. Is there discrimination even in Asian roles?

Well, everyone remembers "Saigon." With all honesty, I don't remember the last time it happened since "Saigon." And that happened because Jonathan Pryce was an established celebrity. So as a businessman, as a producer, you have to think about that.

Like the movie "Mulan" that Lea did the singing voice for, I was very close to being offered to sing the male solo part of the movie. B.D. Wong is already the speaking voice and they needed a singing voice. So Disney brought me in and I sang for them on tape to match the voice. They wanted very much to cast the voices of Asian-Americans. Who did they end up going with? Donny Osmond! (Laughter)

When was the last time Donny Osmond was Asian-American? But Donny Osmond is a celebrity. At that time he had a talk show and he was just coming back. Disney thought, great press. And you know, press is press. So, did anyone care that he wasn't Asian-American? No! He's Donny Osmond.

When it comes to things like "Miss Saigon," the reason it hurt so much was some silly producers said that they couldn't find any Asian-American good enough. That's when it's wrong. If he just had the courage to say, "I'm paying for the show, I'm gonna take a financial risk, I'm gonna hire whoever I wanna hire," I'd have respected him for that.

Do you keep count of how many times you've been turned down?

Then I'm gonna kill myself (laughter). I mean, gosh, do you? Come on, no. I think if you keep in mind how many times you get rejected, it's just gonna get you down. Who wants that?

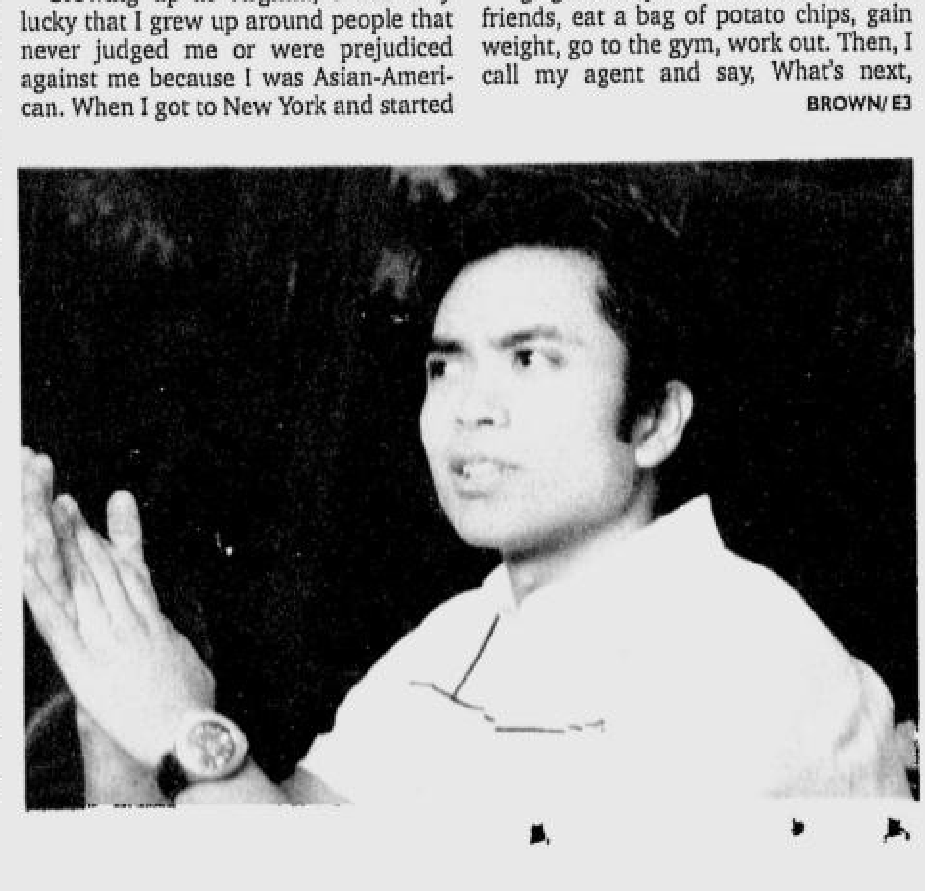
Did you go through a slump?

After "King and I," there was a lot of shows I didn't get. It was hard.

So how do you get over something like that?

I go get a couple of drinks with my best friends, eat a bag of potato chips, gain weight, go to the gym, work out. Then, I call my agent and say, What's next,

BROWN/E3



Brown and big on Broadway

From page E2

when's the next audition?

Do you call your mom?

And then I call my mom (laughter). But if I call too much when I'm depressed, she'll worry too much.

And then she'll pray the Rosary or something?

No, she wouldn't go that far (laughter). If I call my *lola* she'll tell me to pray the Rosary.

What's your dream role?

My dream role hasn't been written yet. I've played enough roles that were revivals. Someone played them before and I get to do my own thing. I've got two very good friends who are composers in New York, [one is] Richard Rodgers' grandson, actually.

He also composes?

Yeah. His name is Adam Guettel. He's already written two shows off Broadway and that's the show I did with him. He doesn't know it yet but he's gonna write me a show (laughter). I think that's my dream role.

Do you think you can do comedy?

Yeah. That's where I got my start in high school. I was a singer in the choir, but when I did drama in high school—because they weren't together, they're always two separate things—I was always the comedian. I started doing improvisational theater, competitive improv. There were four of us and my best friend—that's where we met, in high school—we competed during improv and it was all comedy, actually. That's when I feel most comfortable on stage when you're just being funny. Making someone laugh is a lot harder than making them cry.

Are you fun to be with? Are you the one who'll do something crazy?

When I'm in a party with a bunch of friends, I tend to be the loudest and the silliest person.

So you're not the designated driver?

The responsible one? (Laughter) That's not me.

You're the one who gets drunk?

I wouldn't say I'm the worst. But I'm the one who has a good time. I keep an eye on the designated driver and the one who's getting too drunk. Somewhere in the middle. I'm too much of a control freak.

Do you want to be more buffed?

No. I'm very comfortable with where I am right now. I was also a very, very heavy child. Really fat.

You should have brought your baby pictures.

No, it's okay (laughter). I think it happens to most Filipino kids. The Filipino diet is not the healthiest diet in the world—a lot of fried food, rice and everything. [While I was] growing up, my parents never said no to us when it came to food. Eat what you want. *Merienda*, I'm the only one in school who had *merienda* (laughter). And the second you got home, you have a full meal. Then four hours later, you have dinner.

You're tall though.

That's what happened. I grew. And to become an actor, I knew I had to start getting in shape. But because of that, I still have that heavy kid still inside me. I was the fat kid in grade school and middle school. But the way I got over that is, yes, I'm fat, yes, I'm chubby, but I'm the best singer. And I'm the funniest one in class. So that's how I made friends. And I never apologized for being fat. I'm like, yeah, I like my *tocino* (laughter).

But because of that, now that I get hired to be the leading man, to be the attractive guy, you never see me make fun of anybody. And, yes, I'm vain. Maybe I get hired to play attractive roles, but I don't think about it too much. I see it like you have to be in shape to be an athlete, you have to be in shape to be an actor—to be the actor I want to be. I hope my kids go through that.

I hope my kids are not the ones who make fun of other kids. I hope my kids are the ones who appreciate that it's about who you are and not what you look like. My parents taught me that.

How tall are you?

I'm about 6 feet.

You could've played basketball?

No, I'm terrible at basketball. I'm better at tennis. I like tennis and volleyball.

What was it like working with Paolo Montalban?

It was great. He's a great guy.

Maybe we could do a shoot of you and Paolo.

People are already mistaking the two of us for each other.

That's why I want that, to show that you're two different people.

It's like Michael Jackson and La Toya (laughter). Do you ever see them together? They're really just one. With the wig. (Laughter)

Have you guested on TV?

Yeah, I've appeared on Sharon Cuneta, I did the Urian, and Boy Abunda.

That's worse than Playtime.

This isn't bad.

Because we haven't asked the tough questions. Boxers or briefs?

You wanna know? (Laughter) In this climate, briefs. It's too hot. I don't wanna talk about these things with women in the room, you know what I mean? Because a guy would understand. Most of the boxers that I have are flannel. Briefs keep everything in place and it's cleaner. Now that you've asked the question, it's embarrassing! (Laughter) My mom would be, like, "I can't believe you talked about your underwear!" (Laughter)

What's your favorite food?

Steak, I like just a good New York strip. I don't like bones.

Rare?

Medium rare. With some rice. (Laughter)

With rice? That's so Pinoy. (Laughter)

I know, I know! My father makes a big steak with rice and steamed broccoli.

How about *halo-halo*?

I like *halo-halo*. But I'm picky. I don't like everything they put in *halo-halo*.

I remember as a kid in the Philippine festival in D.C., we always had the *halo-halo* booth. We had these big blocks of ice and the shavers. I was so small and I would be shaving and my arm would get stuck in the ice, freeze in the ice (laughter). But it's just ice and milk and fruits, and you charge $6 for it. That's cash, baby. (Laughter)

If money and career were not a problem, where would you choose to live?

Still New York. It's hard because I've been traveling so much in the past five years, working a lot outside New York. Every time I leave New York, I miss it so much. It's where everything is. It's just where everyone from everywhere else comes to. So I feel like I'm always meeting people from other places in New York. At the same time, I'm glad that I work out of town for a while to greatly appreciate it.

> 'The odd thing is, 'Sex and the City' is all about fashion, but all the money for fashion goes to the four women. The others wear their own clothes (laughter)'

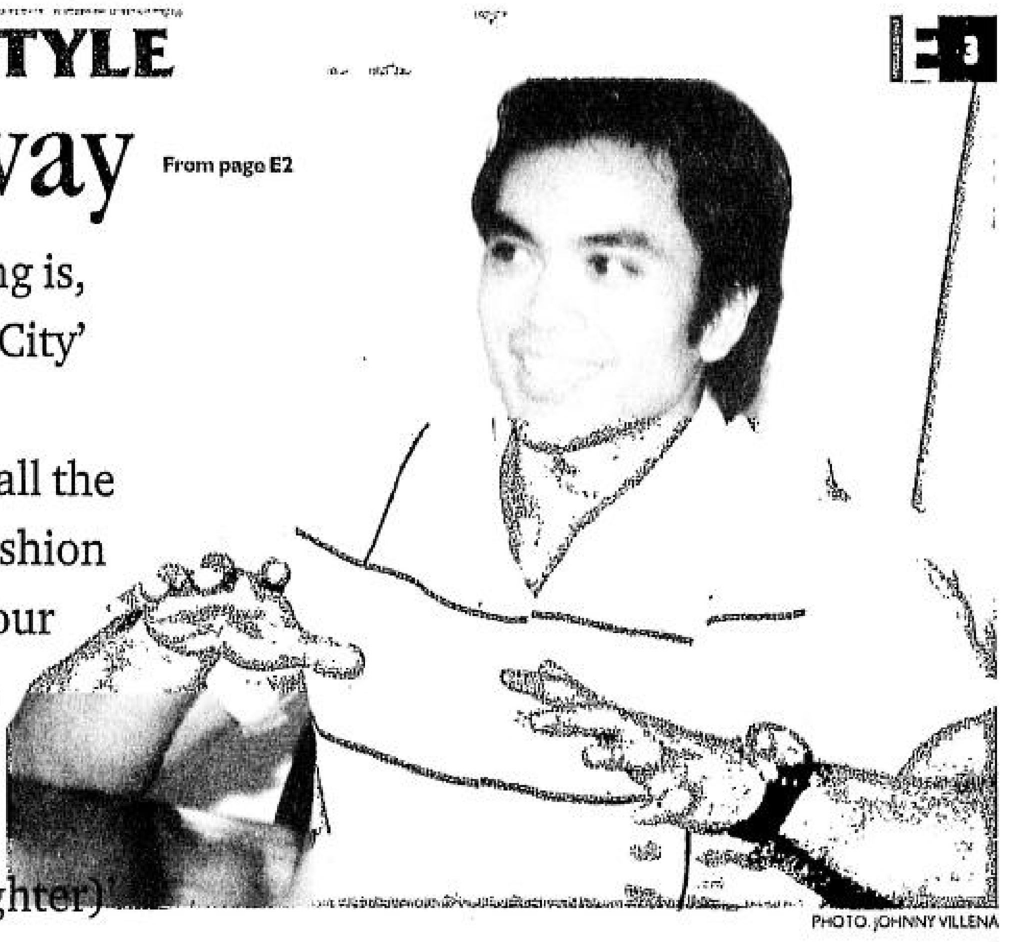


PHOTO: JOHNNY VILLENA

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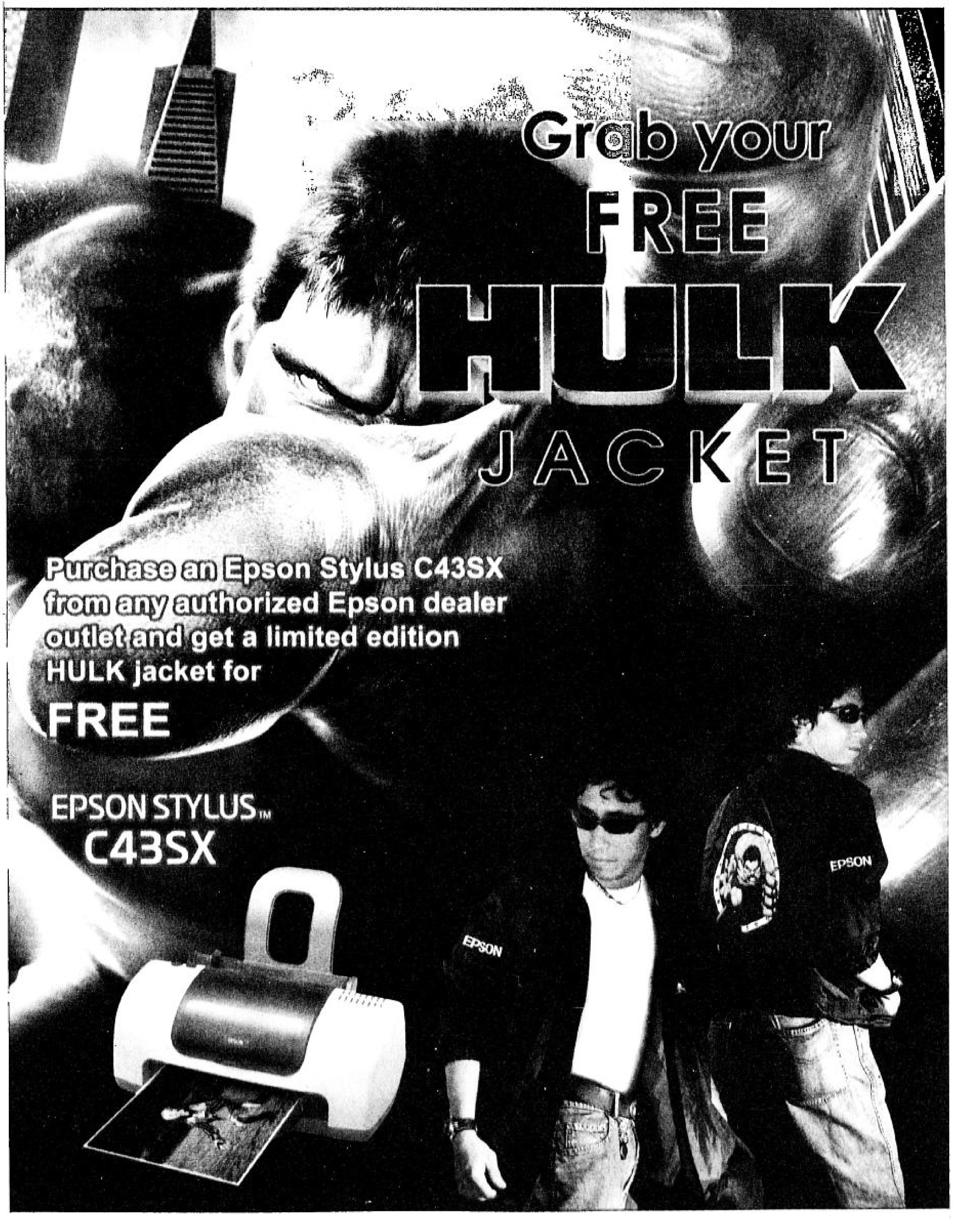
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Sunday LIFESTYLE

MELY Ablaza, Ben Farrales and Rosa Rosal

The veteran designer beams in the loving embrace and warm company of his legions of pals, admirers and patrons

Ben Farrales comes out of his shell

By Bambi Harper

BEN Farrales celebrated his birthday with a bang at the Oyster Bar of **Glenda Barretto.** The place was too small to contain all the well-wishers. But members of Mang Ben's fans club fitted themselves in just the same, such as **Mely** and **Louie Ablaza, Letty** and **Ike Syquia, Edith Rabat, Ching Montinola, Olga Martel, Chi-chi Salas, Helen Ong,**

BEN/F2

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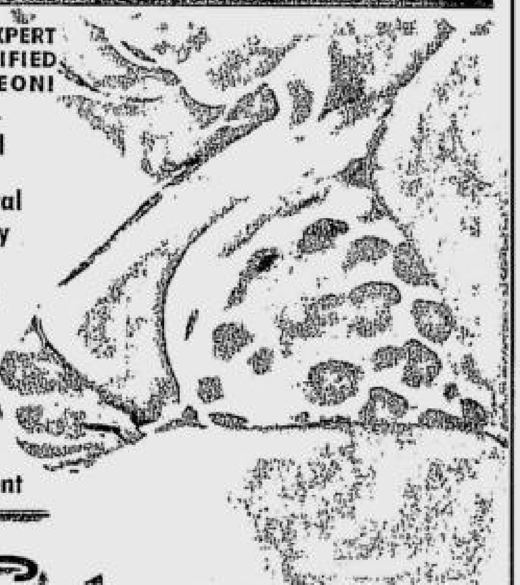

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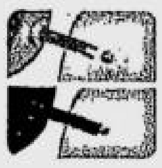

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MR. and Ms Howard Belton

EVIE Costa and Maning Borlaza

ENRIQUE and Letty Syquia

PHOTOS: BETOY JOHNSON

Ben Farrales comes out of his shell

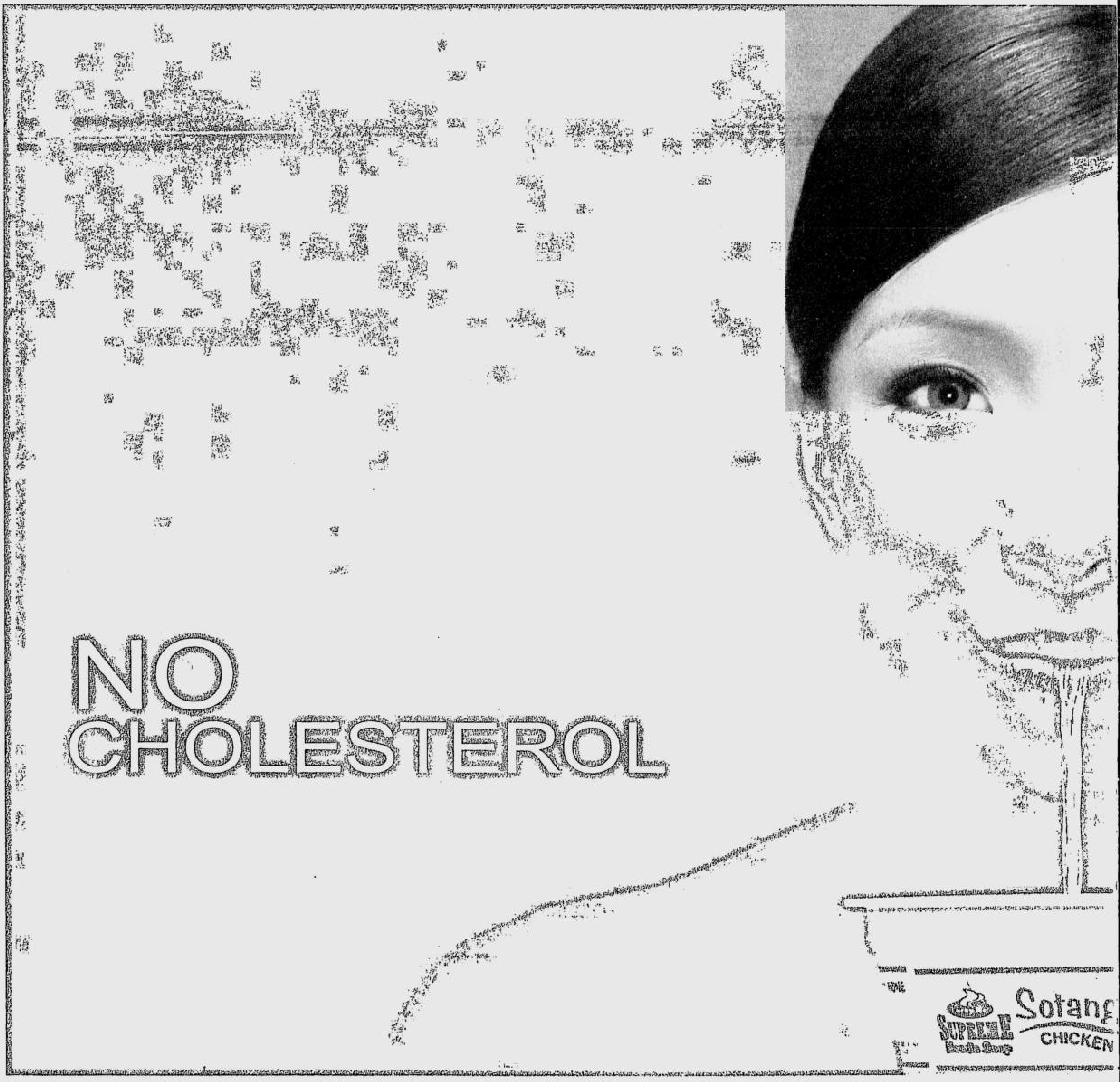
From page F1

NOMER Pabelona (standing), Offie Recto, Criselda Fernandez (right) and her date

Norie Ongsiaco, Rep. **Teddy** and **Louie Locsin**, Mr. and Ms **Chito Macapagal**, and the Ladies of Bel-Air.

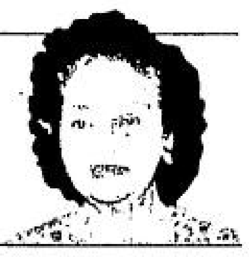
Mang Ben's parties aren't complete if there's no *lechon*, so his birthday party was particularly lavish in *lechon*. But there were also delicious Oysters Rockefeller, shell fish, steaks and barbecue and lovely pumpkin soup served in its shell. The party started off with a charismatic Mass assisted by Ben's friend from Alabang, Father **Chito**. In case you'd like to remember Mang Ben, too, you can donate to his foundation that aims to support talented and deserving students of fashion.

FORTUNE Ledesma



Parents won't let 26-year-old leave home

LIVE AND LET LIVE



Tita Dulce

DEAR Tita Dulce,

I lived in Manila for 10 years until three years ago when I graduated from college and came back here to our province. My plan was to stay with my parents for six months, then work in Manila for 10 years, and then return here to work in the family business. Now I'm 26 and still living here with my overprotective parents.

At first Mom asked me to stay because Dad was sick. He's well now, but it has long become clear that they want me to stay and work in the family business. I've told Mom many times that I wasn't happy here, but my parents and my siblings told me to stay and be happy with what I had. My cousins and friends, on the other hand, think I should leave.

I don't have a social life because Mom scolds me if I go out more than once every three or four months. My opinions and decisions do not matter to them. (No wonder my eldest brother left home at 18.) I tried to adjust. I thought if I'd do for a while everything that they wanted, they'd let me go. But no matter how much I try, I can't be happy here and my parents won't let me go. What should I do?

CELINE

You thrived in Manila for 10 years when you were younger and an easier prey to city tricksters and exploiters, so I don't see why your parents should be worried that you're going to Manila now when you're older and wiser.

This makes me suspect that, in preventing you from leaving, they are actually overprotecting themselves and not you.

If you see that as stunting your personal and professional growth, then, of course, you'd conclude that they are being very narrow-minded and selfish. But how about looking at it as their cry for help?

They are in their 50s or older, and their health is failing. They know that they must move on to the next world eventually, but they would like to be assured that they won't be alone and neglected in their final years. And they think you are the one who would be most able to do them that favor.

> Instead of lamenting your fate, why not ask your siblings to help you look after your parents and the family business?

Instead of lamenting your fate, why not look for the best ways to attend to your parents and the family business, and then divide the tasks among you and your siblings?

You're not your parents' only child and you aren't their only heir, so it should not be you alone, but your siblings as well, who should take care of your parents and the family business.

As you discuss, divide and assign those tasks among yourselves, I'm sure you'll find a fair way that will allow you to work in Manila and, at the same time, serve your parents—without being accused of being selfish and narrow-minded.

E-mail titadulce@netscape.net or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Makati CPO 1263 Makati City, or PDI, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City

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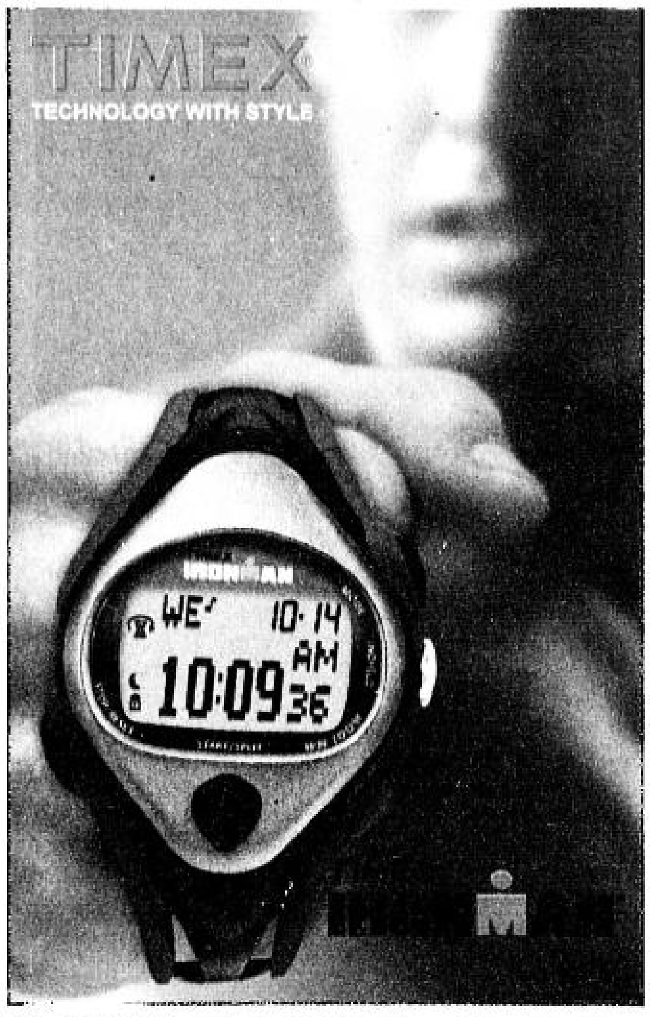

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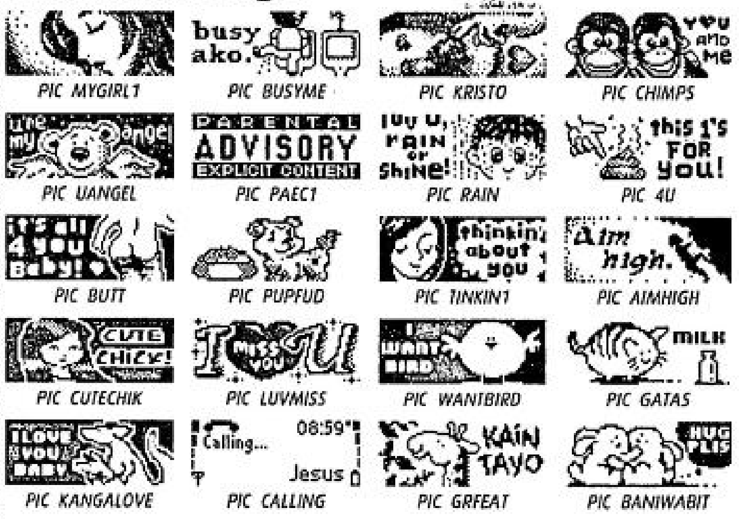

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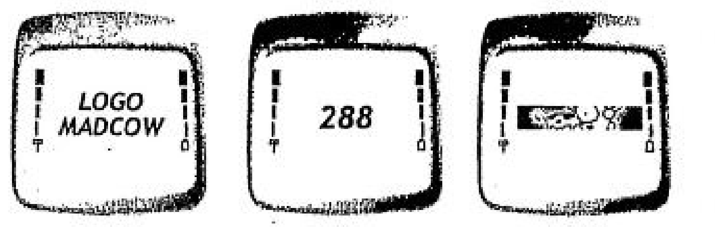

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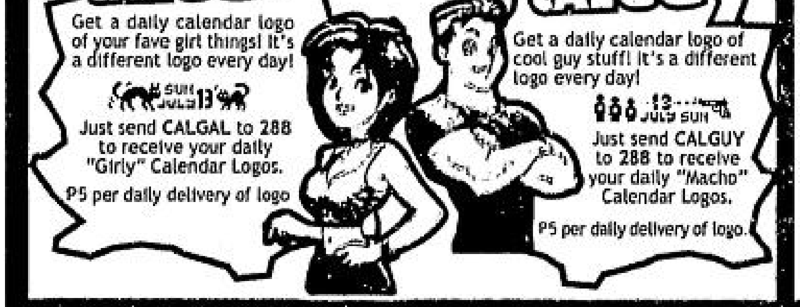

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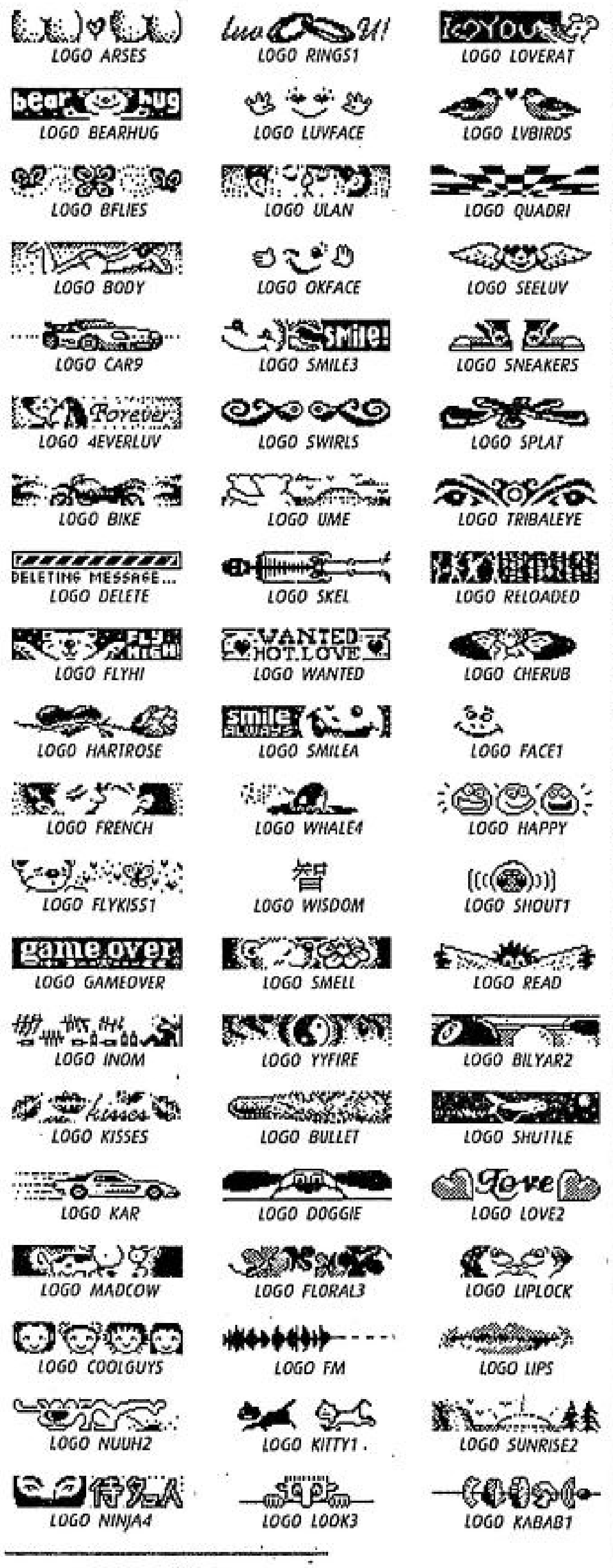

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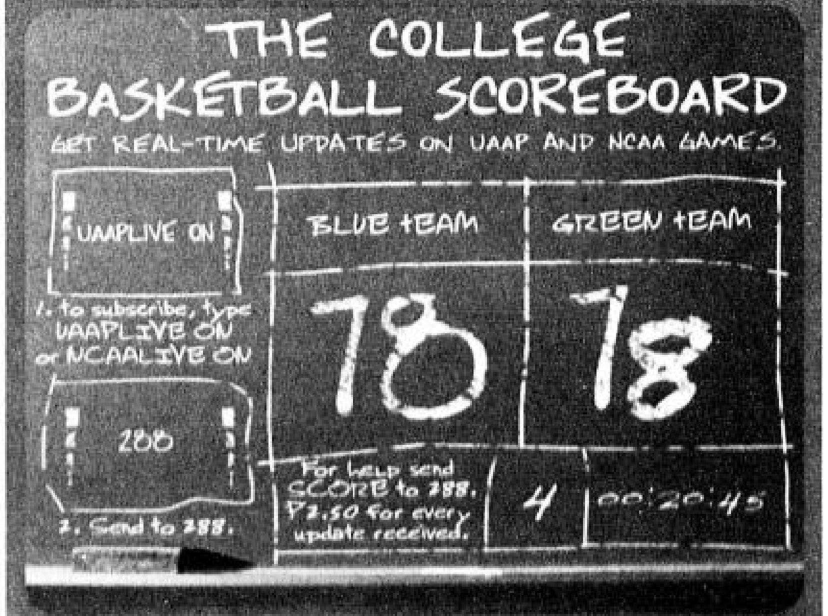
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PHILIPPINE DAILY [illegible]R

Sunday LifeStyle

Magazine, Ben Chan's world-class furniture and lifestyle store in this resurgent Chinese city, makes you proud to be a Filipino

LOUIS Vuitton's Fall/Winter 2003 ad campaign has hot J.Lo as its image model.

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Shanghai sensations and gym perversions

T'NT TRENDS & TRENDINGS

Anton San Diego

SHANGHAI Surprise—Part 1. Much has been written about Shanghai and its transformation from Mao territory to the sophisticated city it now is.

Last weekend, along with my good friend **Mons Tantoco**, we were invited to Shanghai by **Ben Chan** and **Miguel Pastor** for some R & R.

If you think Manila is the only place Ben Chan has done well in, think again. He is out to conquer China as well. We visited his Bench store (called bluBench in China) and I was amazed at how many Shanghainese were lapping up the goods.

Another new venture of Ben's is the furniture and lifestyle store called Magazine, which is absolutely incredible.

This is a must-see place because as a Filipino it will make you feel proud of the goods it sells; it is truly world-class.

The store sells export-quality furniture from the Philippines from the likes of **Kenneth Cobonpue**, and other world-renowned Filipino designers.

The store, which also has a café, will be selling clothes by **Jojie Lloren, Dennis Lustico** and **Randy Ortiz**, and wedding gowns and couture by the one and only **Joe Salazar**.

Asked why he seemed to be shifting focus from retail to this, Ben said, "Not really shifting focus, but I wanted to highlight the best of the Philippines and showcase it here in Shanghai, which has become one of the main destination points in the world."

Magazine is located at 410 Wukang Road, Xuhui District, Shanghai (near Huaihai Middle Road and Xingguo Road) 200030; tel. +8621-6431-9971.

In the next edition of TNT, watch out for Shanghai city life, underground bars and why there are no stray cats and dogs in the city.

TNT's book of the month—Paulo Coelho's "Manual of the Warrior of Light." If you loved "The Alchemist," you will surely love this book. "Warrior of Light" expounds on the theme set out in Coelho's previous book of "living your dream, embracing the uncertainties of life an rising and meeting our own unique destiny."

SHANGHAI/ G2

FILIPINO BRILLIANCE. The façade of Magazine

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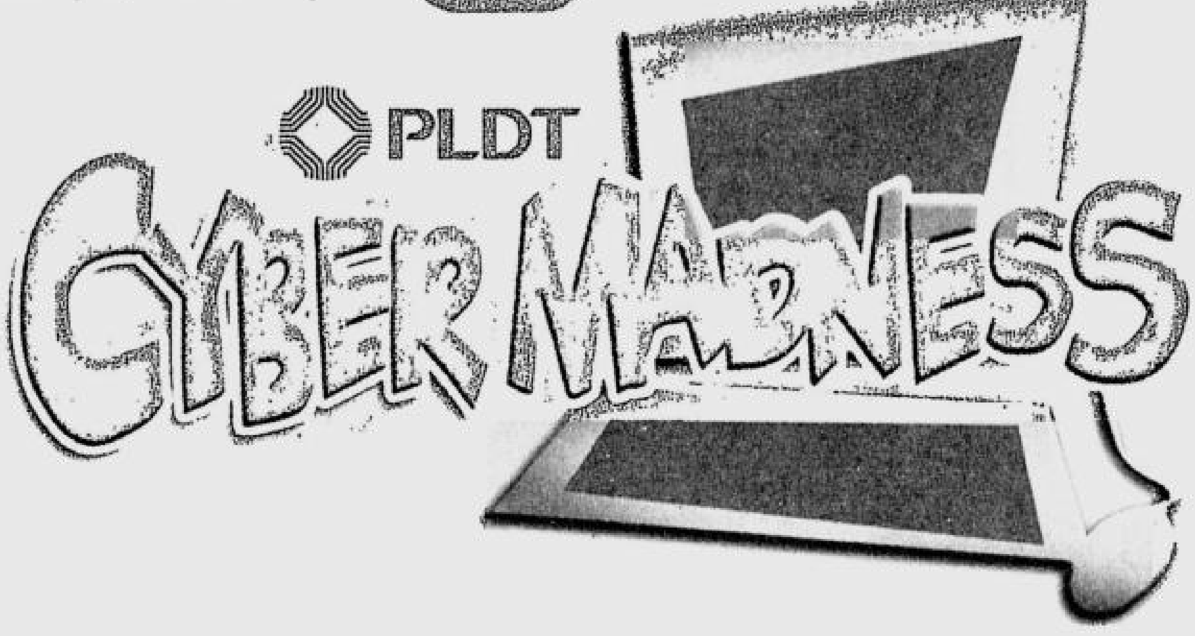

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Shanghai sensations and gym perversions

From page G1

NEED A LIFT? This may be the answer for women out there who want to have fuller breasts minus the surgery.

Unlike "The Alchemist," it is not a novel, but almost like a meditative book to be read every day. The book offers daily lessons for reaching the enlightened status of "The Warrior."

Some of the lessons to be learned are the value of failure, respect for the universal laws, fulfilling and living your dreams and the acceptance of things as they are.

I had to buy two copies of the book: one for the office and one for the home, so I could read it anytime I wanted to.

A boob job. Ever wanted to have silicone implants minus the surgery? Well, your dream has come true with Nu Bra, a self-adhesive silicone cup that molds to the body.

The bra is backless and is a better version than the water-filled, inflatable ones. It also sticks to the skin and is held together via a hook, resulting in natural-looking cleavage.

Available sizes are A, B and C, in clear and nude colors. Available at Private Shop, Landmark Central Hong Kong.

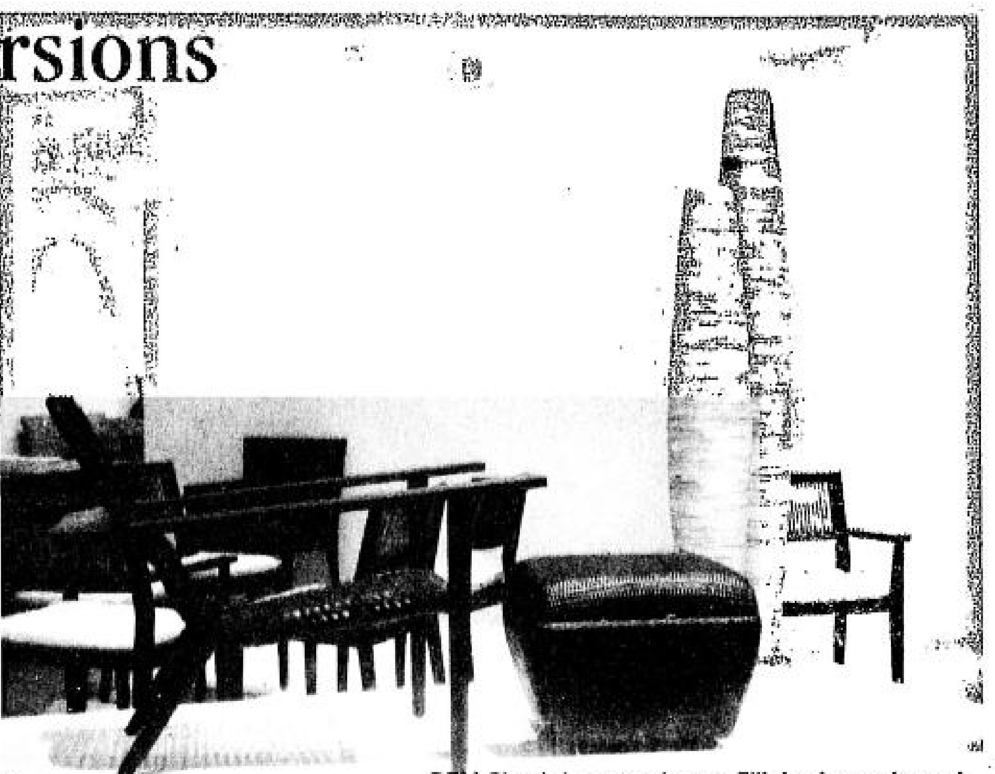
Clothes for daring men. In the recent Spring/Summer 2004 Men's Collection, four pieces stood out as contenders for the "What were they thinking?" or "Would you be caught dead in this outfit?" award.

They were by major designers Helmut Lang, Jean Paul Gaultier, Miu Miu and Yohji Yamamoto.

These clothes are set to hit international stores and be seen in fashion magazines in less than a year, but here's the question: Are there any takers?

Jennifer Lopez—Louis Vuitton's muse. When I first heard that J.Lo was going to head the campaign for Louis Vuitton's F/W 2003 collection, I had to think twice because I just saw her on TV in that awful movie called "Anaconda."

Now I'm eating my words. Looking at the photos sent to me, the ads are just beautiful, and Ms Lopez never looked better. The reason they chose her, according to LV sources, is that "she is a modern woman who is in tune with the times. She is the very image of a glamorous, seductive and sexy woman, the perfect model for this collection."



BEN Chan's latest endeavor. Filipino ingenuity and creativity go world-class at Magazine in Shanghai.

TNT agrees!

Which Angel are you? Caught "Charlie's Angels 2—Full Throttle" and will spare you my personal review, but I just want to say that I enjoyed the movie immensely.

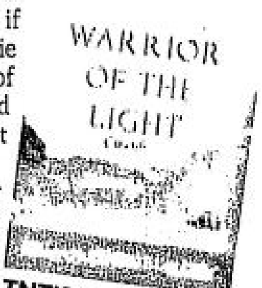
After "Matrix" and "The Hulk," it was refreshing to watch a movie that did not make you think or wonder if you were the only one who did not understand the movie.

Here's what I liked about it: the clothes, '80s songs (Think "Last Dance," "My Sharona," and "Flashdance") and the stunts.

The only thing I did not like was the black Bosley. He was not funny at all!

I kept telling my friends that the movie was so camp that if the men in the movie "Priscilla, Queen of the Desert" played the Angels' roles, it would still be a hit.

The scene-stealer was none other than Demi Moore. She must now be the bane of all 40-plus women because she has become the benchmark for looks, body and romance.



TNT'S book of the month

Watching the modern Angels, I could not help but compare them to the original ones played by Kate Jackson, Jaclyn Smith and my all-time fave, Farrah Fawcett-Majors.

I remember, as a child, I had her posters all over my room and would even collect those bubble-gum packs with free trading cards.

No one can beat the original Angels; each had a distinct character. Kate was the smart one, Jaclyn was the beautiful one and Farrah was the sexy and sassy one. Now that's where the original and the new ones differ. Today's Angels think, act and even dress alike.

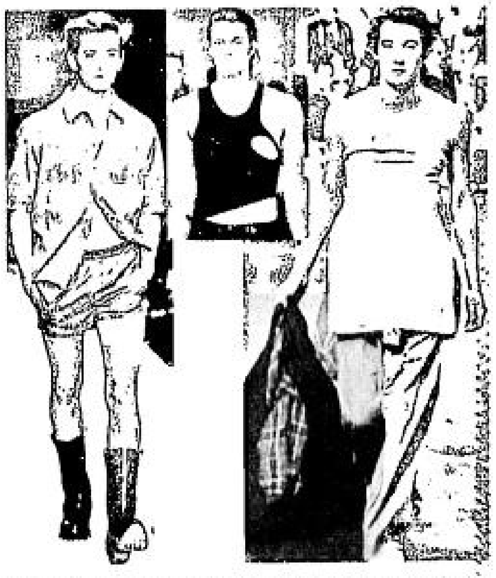
So here's to the original Angels. Wherever you are, you were the best!

Phone spy—Those phone-cum-cameras are the hottest things on the market of late. But did you know that they may be banned in certain establishments soon, especially in gyms?

That's because there have been cases where people took photos of other people in their naked state and then passed them around.

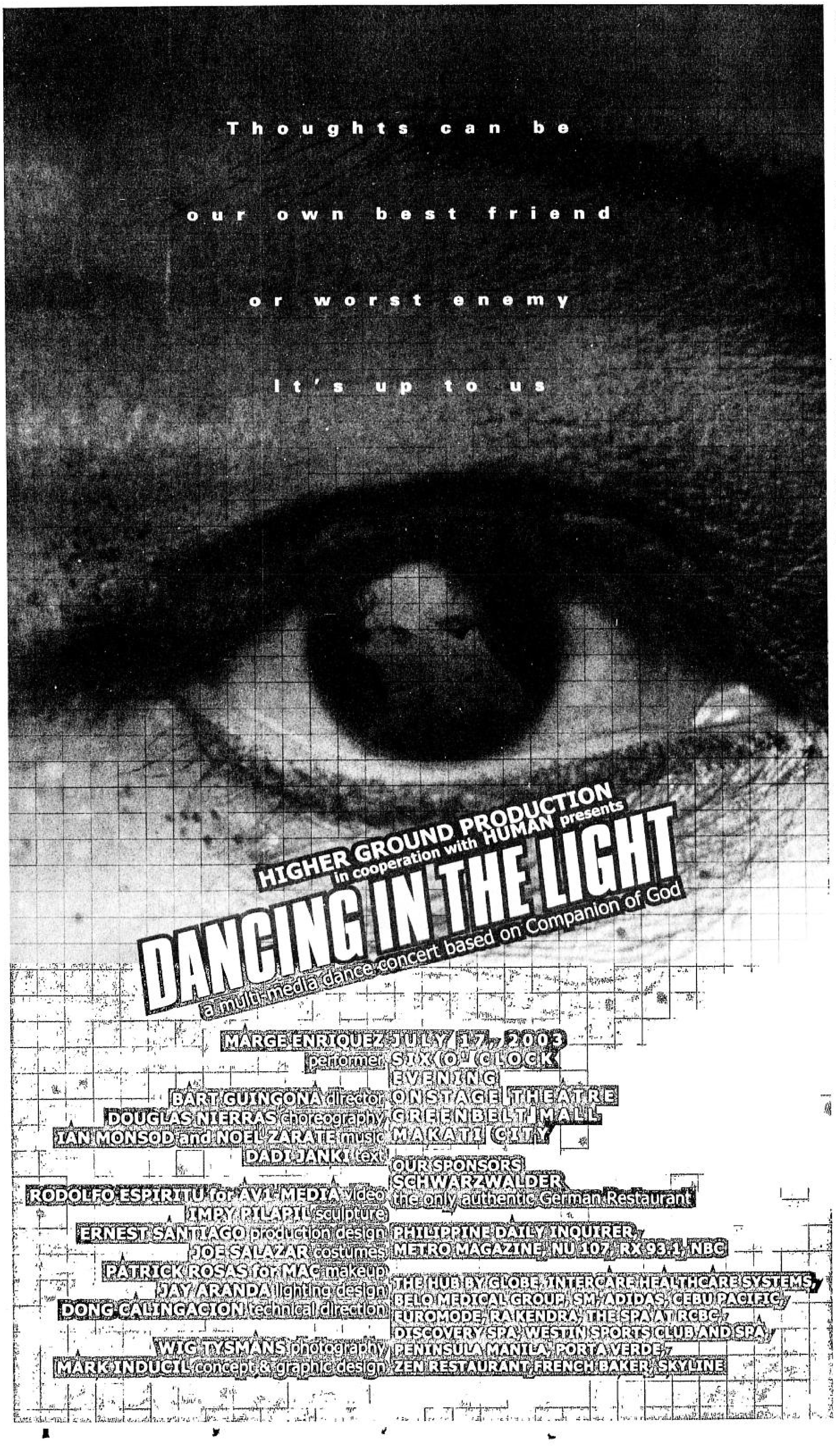
So here's a warning to fitness lovers: Beware of members of your gym (men and women alike) who like to hang out in the locker room while carrying those phones. You just might end up a target of their perversions.

E-mail the author at asd_world@hotmail.com



GUYS, would you be caught in these outfits? Spring/Summer 2004 collection from: (from left) Miu Miu, Helmut Lang and Yohji Yamamoto

THE ORIGINAL Angels are still the best. Farrah Fawcett, Kate Jackson and Jaclyn Smith



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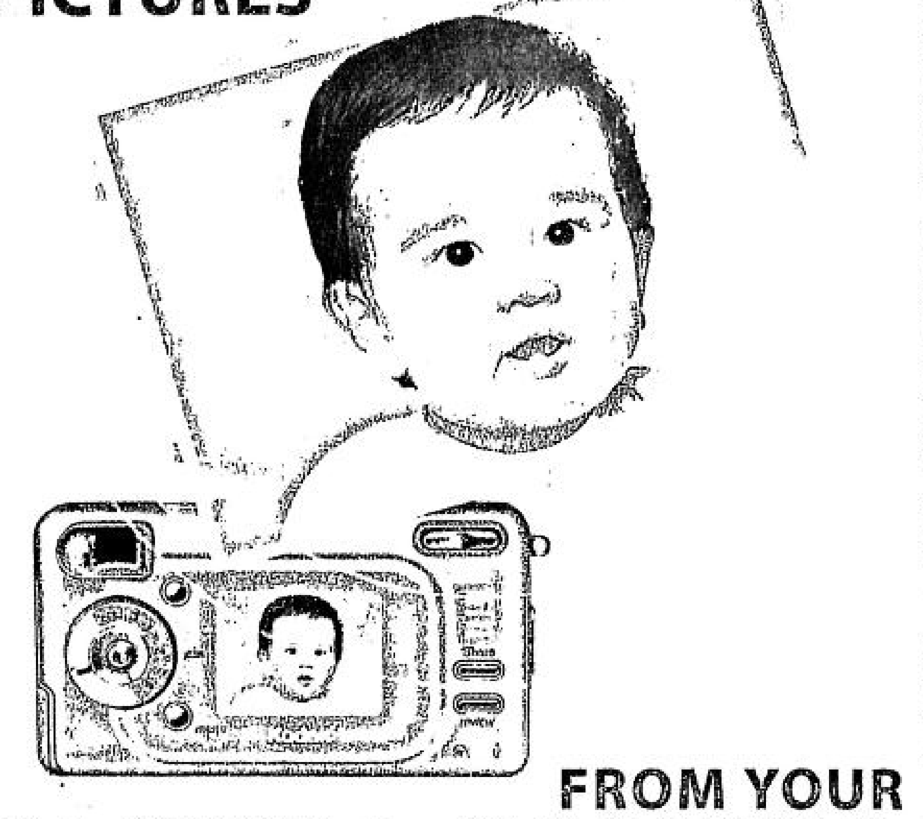

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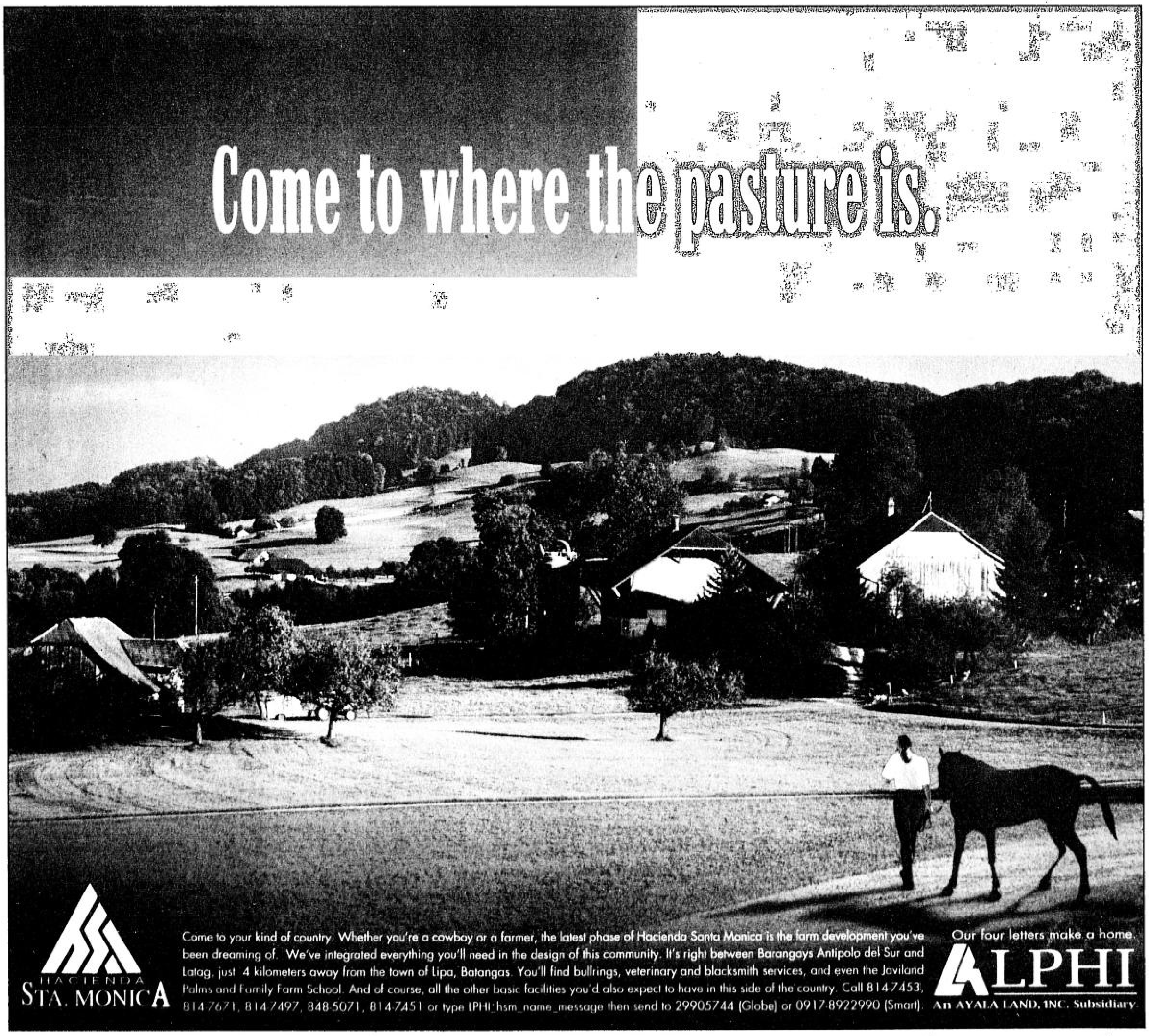

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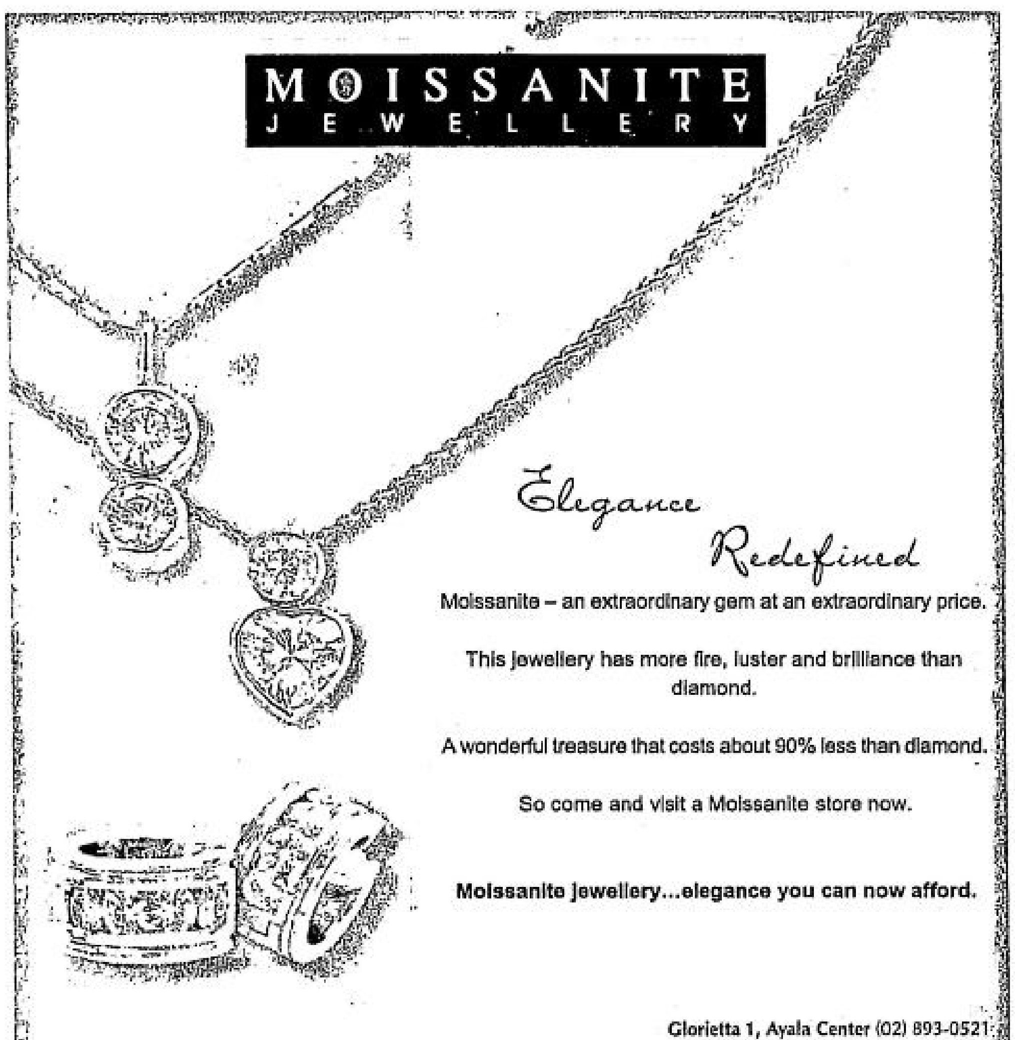
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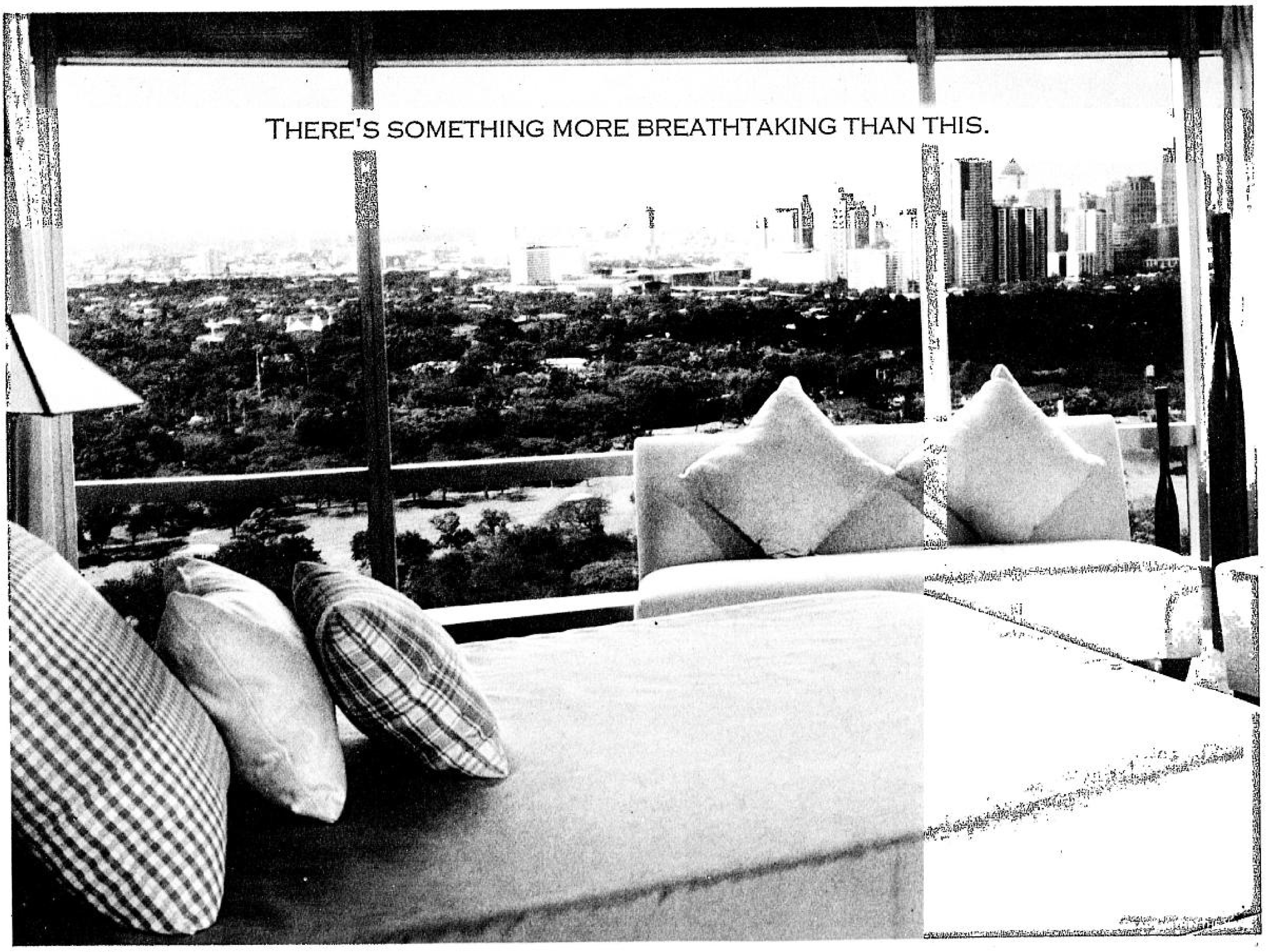
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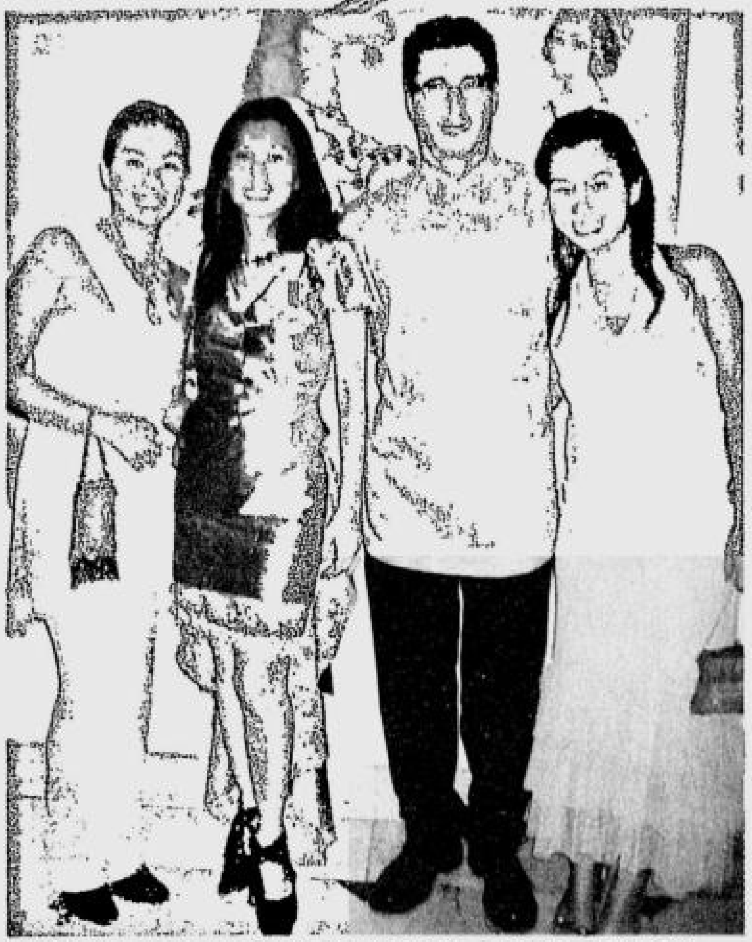


FASHION sense in the family. Sam Tan-Gan, Lulu Tan-Gan in Jojie Lloren, Jose Gueta and Jes Tan-Gan

Why I am a serial social list watcher

TESSA!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes

LAST Tuesday, I did the local jetsetting scene and flew to Palawan. I took the 7:30 a.m. flight of Cebu Pacific to work on an interior design project there. At 1:05 p.m. I took their Cebu flight to connect to Manila at 3 p.m. All three flights arrived ahead of schedule. I was 15 minutes early coming into Palawan, such that my ride was not even there yet to pick me up.

The only reason Cebu Pacific was "only" on time coming back to Manila was because the plane had to wait for me. I was the last to board after buying out all the dried mangoes, *chicharon* and T-shirts at the Island Souvenirs airport shop. Even if I spent the least time in Cebu (in transit for under an hour), I was able to buy almost another suitcase of things.

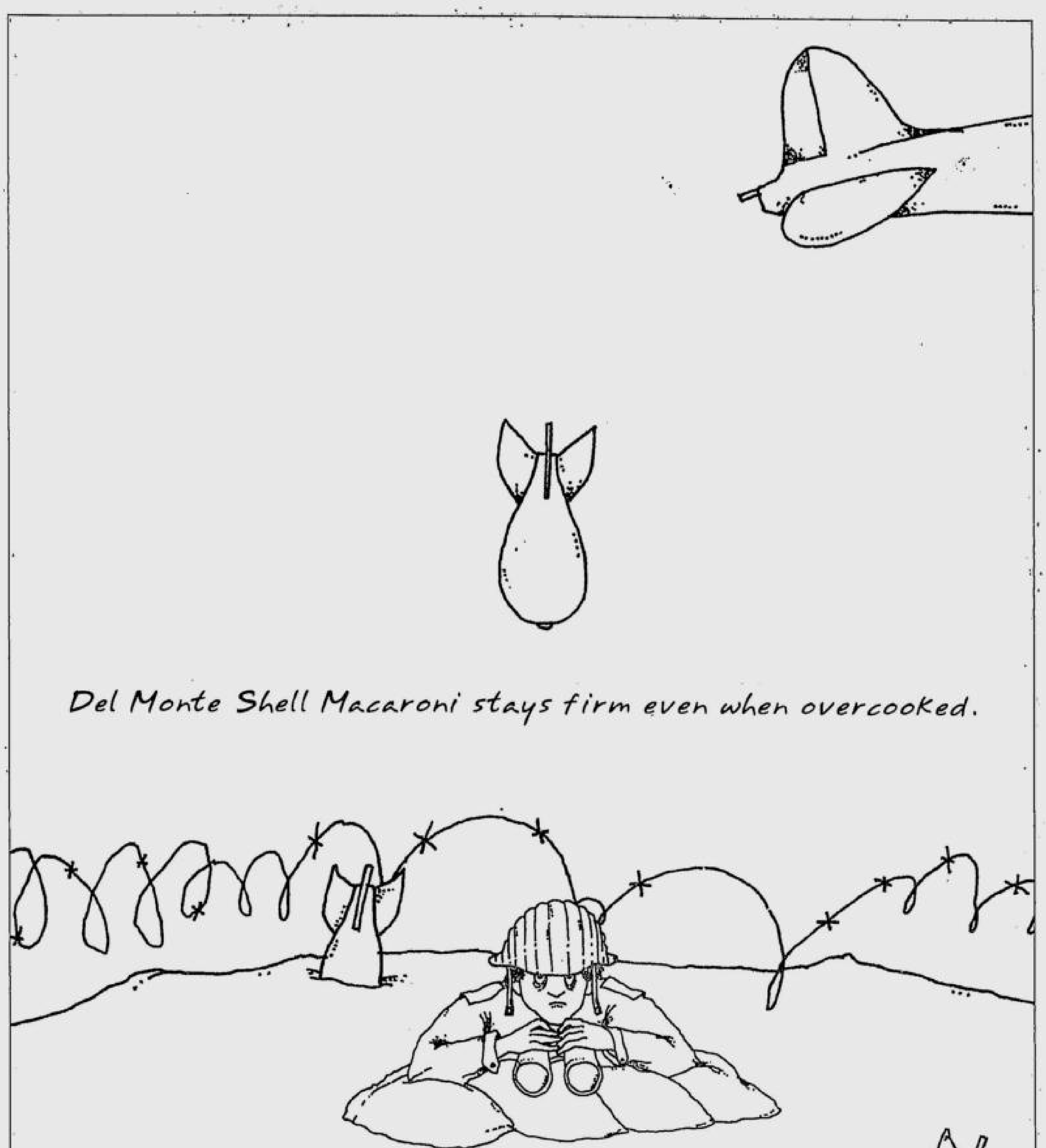
In between airport stalls, I bumped into **Raul Teehankee** of INQUIRER who was there to cover the "Weddings at the Waterfront," a three-day wedding fair at the Waterfront Hotel.

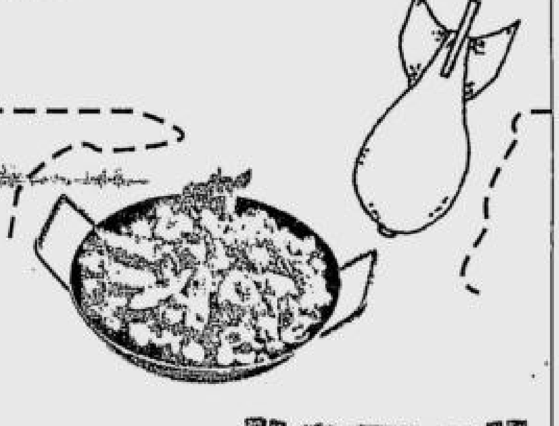
After three hours of flying time and participating in Cebu Pacific's Bring Me games (tip: they always ask for a photo of Ninoy), I realized why I could never be a stewardess. Well, even if I was blessed with six more inches in height, I don't think I can be that cheerful in the morning and be serving food and drinks while there is turbulence. If that ever happens during my watch, I'll simply announce to the passengers that it will be self-service for the duration of the flight.

Well-lauded Lulu

I had to head back that same day because of an event I could not miss. Fashion designer **Lulu Tan-Gan** was to be awarded the title of "Chevalier dans l'Ordre

WHY/ H2


Del Monte Shell Macaroni stays firm even when overcooked.



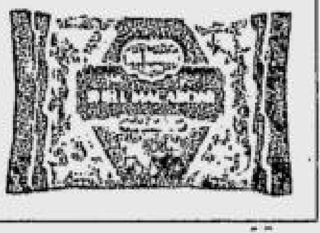
Pasta Jambalaya

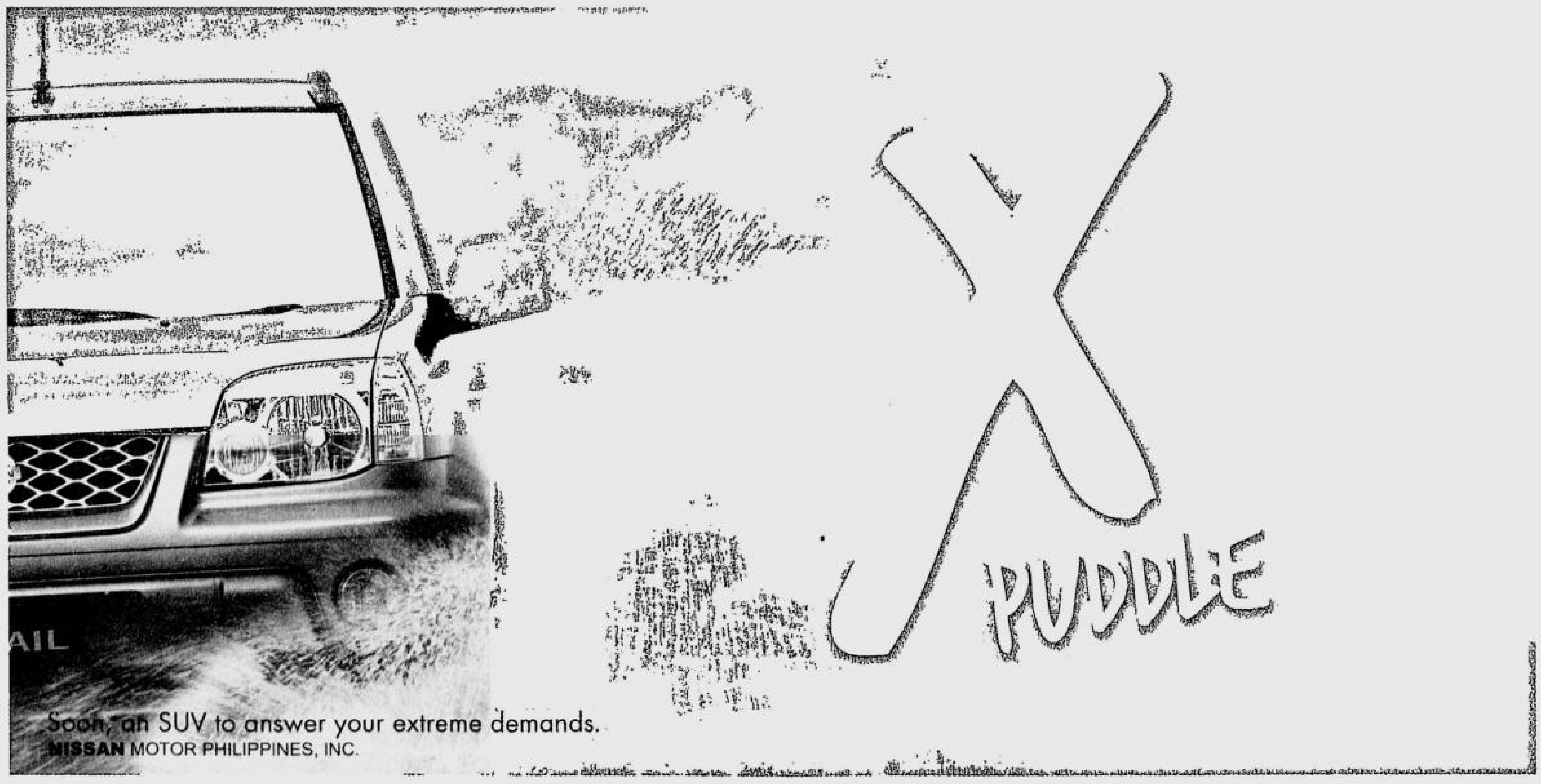
600g	DEL MONTE Shell Macaroni, cooked per package directions	3 pcs.	chicken bouillon cubes
1 pouch	(750g) DEL MONTE Filipino Style Spaghetti Sauce	1 head	garlic, crushed
1/2 Kg	chicken breast, deboned and cut into strips	3 large	onions, sliced
1/4 Kg	medium shrimps, peeled but with tails intact	5 stalks	celery, sliced
3 pcs.	chorizo de bilbao, diced	1 large	red bell pepper, cut into small squares
		1/3 cup	margarine
		1/2 tsp.	dried oregano
		1 tsp.	dried cayenne pepper

1. Saute garlic, onion, celery and chicken in margarine. Add DEL MONTE Spaghetti Sauce, 1/4 cup water and all remaining ingredients except macaroni. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Simmer for 8 minutes.
2. Mix sauce with DEL MONTE Shell Macaroni and transfer to a platter. Top with cheese, if desired.

MAKES 15 SERVINGS.

You can't go wrong.





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TATLER prime couple Randy and Irene Francisco

ARCHITECT Ramon Antonio and classic beauty Eva Abesamis

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WINK duo Rhett Eala and Cindy Yang, one of Preview's 25 most stylish women

Why I am a serial social list watcher

From page H1

des Arts et Lettres" by **Jean-Jacques Aillagon**, French minister of culture and communication.

My rusty French is *tres* terrible, but the award was for Lulu's artistic contribution to Philippine fashion as well as her dedication to promoting better relations between French and Philippine designers. All I know is that this was quite a prestigious event that was held in the French Ambassador's residence no less. Lulu was so nice to call me several times to be sure I would be there and support her with my avant-garde presence.

With guests mostly from the fashion industry and the French community, Lulu received hearty applause when she was knighted by the lovable French ambassador, Madame **Renee Veyret**. Lulu has been promoting our local designers by organizing competitions and hosting fashion/design seminars. She is to the fashion industry what **Rosa Rosal** is to the Red Cross. She deserves this award and more.

As her gift to the ambassador, Lulu did a compilation of "Imaging," a presentation of the Filipino entries to the Paris design competitions. With digital imaging, she superimposed Madame Veyret wearing the creations inspired by French sites and architecture. Our country is really brimming with talent and creativity! If only we were blessed with gold as well!

Serial listing

Seems like lists are all the rage in magazines these days. Good thing these lists on beauty or style are so highly subjective that no one can complain, demand to be included in the list, or worse, have editors fired for including rivals on the list.

Of course there are those who question the selections, but like I say, if these lists stress you out, just make your own list and put yourself in it.

Mega Magazine hosted "10 at 12," a photo exhibit at Restaurant 12 featuring the "10 Most Beautiful Women in Philippine Society."

The list included **Rosanne Prieto**, who, I must tell you readers under the strict disclosure rules of the INQUIRER, is a relative of mine. Ergo, beauty is in our blood!

Unfortunately, her sculptured features and genes come from her beauty-title-holder mother, **Nini Licaros**, who remains a stunner at her age.

So, I guess if Mega had made the list to go up to 20, I can console myself with the probability that I would have been in it.

Also on the list was the mom of former model **Crispy Laurel, Ingrid Santamaria**. A truly statuesque classic beauty, Tita Ingrid is also a concert pianist who has done enormous things to promote music, especially for the young musicians in Cebu. Now, that's what I call beautiful inside and out.

Crispy, who shares her mom's fine features, is married to my cousin, **Arsenic Laurel**. Proper disclosure again! So can I also say beauty runs in my extended family?

Mega's editor-in-chief **Sari Yap** is noticeably slimmer and more confident these days. Not that she was not before, but her improved figure has made a dramatic change in her persona. Now if there is any guy who could get her out of her workaholic schedule, she will be one fine catch.

Lifestyle Asia editor-in-chief **Lisa Ilarde-Cuenca** was in an eye-catching number. The women of Mega are really blooming these days. Must be the magazine boom!

Lovely wedding

With all the feathers on the floor which kept getting caught up under my **Patrice Ramos-Diaz** wedding gown, I moved to the wedding reception of the daughter of **Rupert** and **Tina Jacinto, Liezlnina**, who got married to a fine-looking Japanese gentleman, **Yukimura Sato**.

> On time for flights, always late for weddings and receptions, and almost always finding a relative in glossy lists of the most beautiful and stylish

WOMEN OF STYLE AND SUBSTANCE. Ces Drilon, Lulu Tan-Gan, French Ambassador Renee Veyret, Myrza Sison and Millet Mananquil

10 AT 12 PARTY/YOGA BUDDIES. Joji Dingcong, Marcos Sainz, Sea Princess in a Patrice Ramos-Diaz creation, Leica Carpo and Todd Matthews

My dramatic (or late) entrance seemed to have been perfectly timed to the performance of **Raul Sunico** on the grand piano.

The Manila Peninsula Ballroom was transformed into a beauty garden-style set-up with a very long central presidential table seating all the sponsors. As I congratulated the mother of the bride, I asked her who made her lovely, rose-colored gown with silk flowers encrusted in it. To my surprise, Rupert told me that it was Tina's creation. I thought quickly of my next social occasion where perhaps I could have her make me something.

Since my personal clock is always an hour or more late, my husband **Dennis** and I missed dinner at the reception, so we ended up eating in Mi Piace, the Pen's Italian restaurant. Even if we were very hungry, I must say that the food in this restaurant was delicious. Its chef, **Michele Mingozzi**, prepares each meal and oversees the menu selection.

Good thing Dennis was delighted with the food so he didn't focus on my being tardy again.

AVANT-GARDE style looker Astrud Crisologo

MY BEST-DRESSED ladies at the Sato-Jacinto wedding: Menchu Concepcion in Bobby Novenario, Criselda Lontok in her own and Mely Ablaza in Ben Farrales

FASHION-BRED ladies Mia Borromeo flanked by Margarita Delgado and daughter Clarissa

BEAUTIES ALL! Annette Coronel, Cecile Ysmael and Mega-10-Beauty Susan Reyes

LIFESTYLE Asia chic-in-charge Liza Ilarde-Cuenca

MEGA-SLIMMER editor in chief Sari Yap

COOL, gorgeous couple Manu Sandejas and Mega-10-Beauty Agot Isidro

Another list

A week later, perhaps as retaliation to the Mega list, Preview magazine launched its own list at Le Pavilion. "25 Most Stylish Women" was its angle this time. I went through the list but did not find any relatives. However, lots of good friends were on the list so I could not complain that I was not listed. But, you know my attitude, I am, for sure, on another list—my own!

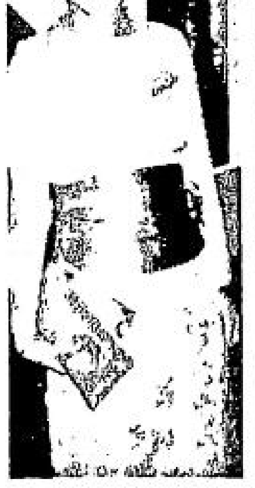
If I had to single out the most stylish of that list, based on my taste, it would be **Astrud Crisologo**. Her avant-garde style and sense of color are just up my alley. Some of the people on the list are really in the fashion industry, so they are supposed to be stylish. But Astrud is a cool mom who dresses in her own distinctive style. Now that's style inside and out.

Tim Yap hosted the event and asked the guests their interpretation of the theme, "vintage-nouveau formal." He spotted **Robina Gokongwei** and ran after her across almost half of the tent, but had no luck cornering the elusive publisher. Robina is either in much better shape than Tim is, or she is just extremely shy.

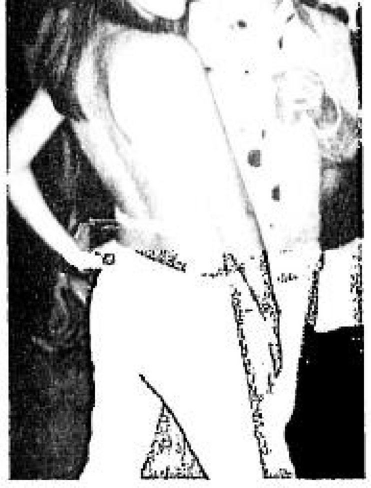
My answer to Tim's query was based on my Gothic-looking gown by **Danilo Franco**—I said it was any decade in the past mixed with your attitude, which provided the "nouveau" part.

With all the fashion going around, my suggestion to all is to start getting fashionable! The best way to do that is to put on some attitude, then go out, socialize and be seen!

E-mail me at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph.


KATHERINE Ong

PREVIEW editor in chief Pauline Suaco-Juan


BARE-BACKED, sexy Celine Gabriel with Louie Clapparols, who designed the piece

STYLE buddies Tina Pamintuan and DJ Montano

TOP FASHION GURUS. Robi Lolin, Randy Ortiz, Trade Undersecretary Fe Reyes, Vic Barba, DTI's Anthony Prudencio and talented Dennis Lustico

Working beyond skin deep

WHEN we see a picture of a lovely lady, we usually appreciate her looks and her charm. Yet we are not always aware of the hard work and detail involved in putting that fine photograph together. What really happens behind the scene?

Stylish stylist Millet Arzaga and top fashion model-turned-super-makeup artist Lala Flores know all too well the professional commitment required to achieve this.

Both ladies have been responsible for highlighting the natural beauty of many fabulous faces, including that of pop diva and current celebrity endorser for Shangri-La Plaza Mall, Pops Fernandez.

When asked how she started out as stylist, Millet credited a lifestyle writer for "discovering the stylist in me."

She defines a stylist's role by quoting the writer: "A stylist will find clothes, shoes, accessories, props, whatever it takes to make a look come together to create an indelible image, an unforgettable impression, a heart-stopping moment."

Now on her sixth year in her chosen profession, Millet is constantly weaving magic for fashion editorials, cover shoots, print ads and ad campaigns, fashion makeovers, album covers, celebrity PR shoots, and select fashion shows and TV commercials.

According to Lala Flores, the makeup artist "helps to enhance the beauty of a person or product in any kind of setting."

Having been a model for 10 years, Lala was constantly exposed to what she calls "the power of makeup." She saw how it could transform even the simplest subject into a stunning creation.

Her love for fashion and beauty also strengthened her decision to shift to this side of the production fence. Today, Lala is on her fourth year of enhancing faces with her cosmetic brushes, and is in demand by many advertising agencies, fashion shows and entertainment personalities.

Millet first worked with Pops for a shoot with Metro Working Mom and Yes magazines. She also styled her for a movie poster and press release, as well as a pre-shoot for the TV show "Morning Girls."

Lala, for her part, confessed to being apprehensive about meeting Pops for the first time on another magazine shoot. The Pops she saw on TV appeared to be aloof and *suplada*. But to her relief, Pops turned out to be the opposite.

"All my fears disappeared when I discovered how she had no airs at all," she said. "*Hindi* prima donna! No pretensions. Shy *pa nga*. And she has a kind heart."

Surprisingly, even Pops had the jitters.

"What Lala probably doesn't know is that the first time we worked together, I was also nervous knowing that a supermodel was actually making me look good. She obviously knows the tricks of the trade. Yet because she was very pleasant to work with and also very *ma-chika*, I knew we hit it off well."

And the rest is history. As far as work is concerned, Millet and Lala thoroughly enjoy their sessions with Pops.

"Wardrobe-wise, Pops can wear anything, from simple classics to funky alternatives, to flashy diva-esque pieces," says Millet. "Pops has an eye for detail, that's why her personal taste for style is effortless."

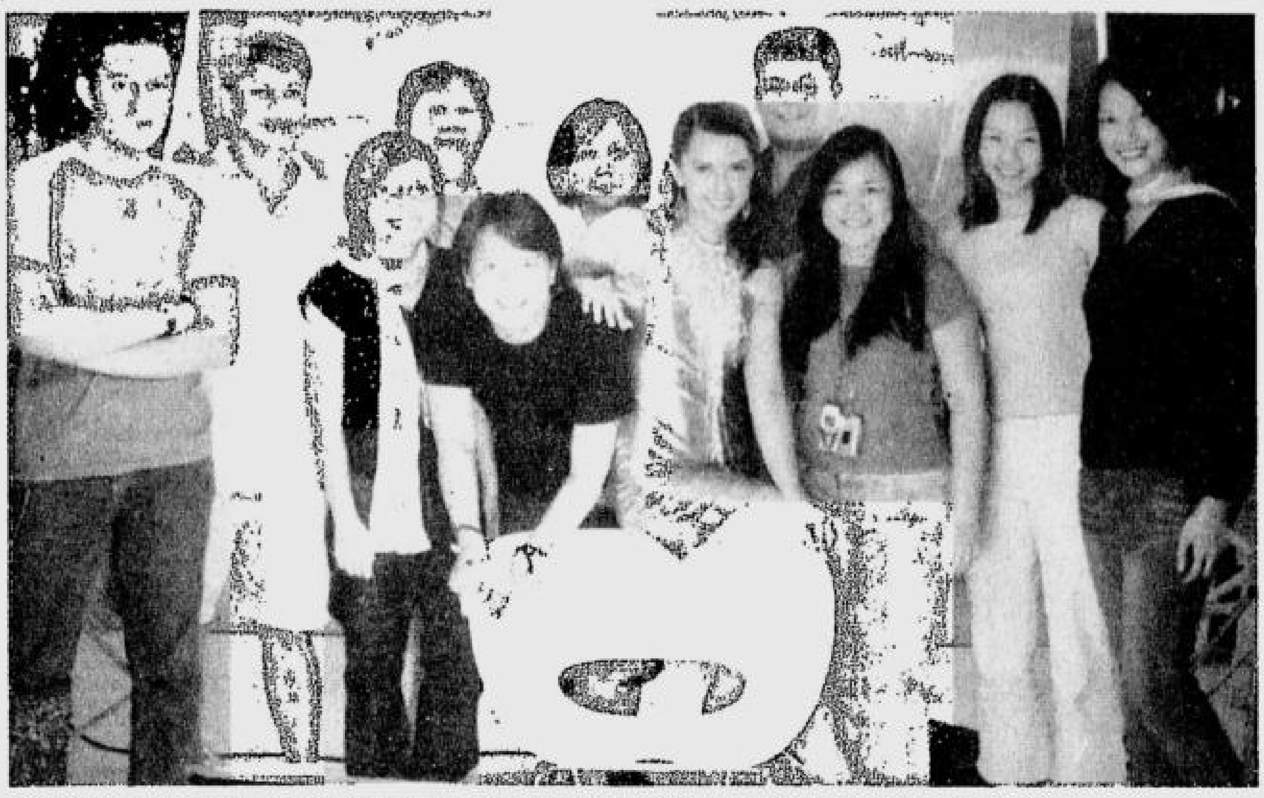
Lala, on the other hand, likes to focus on Pops' eyes. "While Pops also has good skin and sexy lips, I really like to play up her eyes because they are so expressive."

The three women often collaborate on projects these days, even as they maintain a deep bond that goes beyond skin deep. A mutual respect and admiration nurture their professional relationship, making each session an occasion to look forward to.

As Pops says, "I believe that when you do something, it's a must to enjoy it, whether it's a long and sleepless taping or a strenuous dance rehearsal. That means the people you work with should also be the ones who'll help make your work fun. Then, it doesn't feel like work."

THE CHEMISTRY between Pops and top stylist Millet Arzaga is just incredible and it shows throughout the shoot.

"I LOVE the way she laughs—*masaya at bigay na bigay*," Lala Flores says of Pops Fernandez.



ALL IN A DAY'S WORK. Pops with Raymond Isaac, Lala and Millet and the entire production crew

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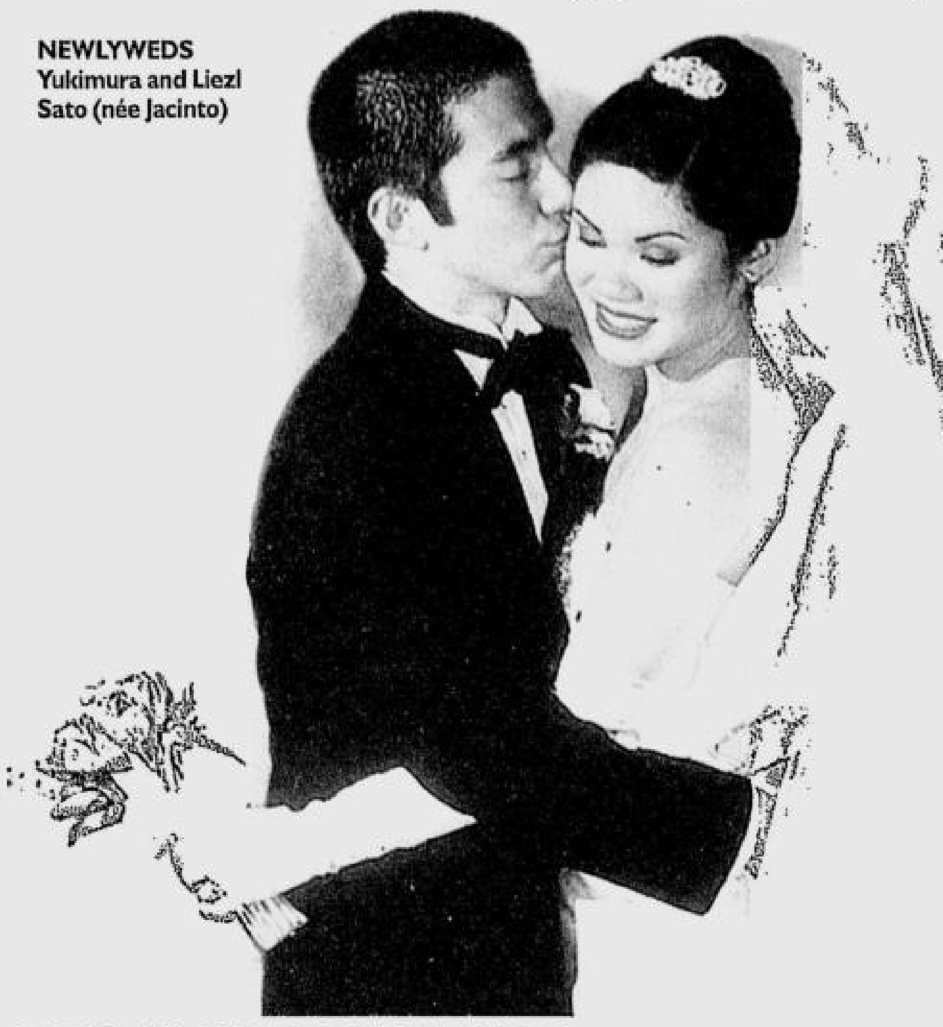
SUNDAY,
JULY 13, 2003

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Sunday LIFESTY

Weddings Engagem

NEWLYWEDS Yukimura and Liezl Sato (née Jacinto)



> The bride wore a Pitoy Moreno gown; the Peninsula ballroom was transformed into a scene from a Van Gogh painting

SATO-JACINTO NUPTIALS

A wedding of two worlds

Text by Maurice Arcache
Photos by Alex Van Hagen

ATTRACTIVE Liezl Hidalgo Jacinto, youngest daughter of renowned photographer Rupert Jacinto and Tina Hidalgo, recently said "I do" to hip looker Yukimura Sato, son of Japanese business magnate Masaharu Sato and Asian beauty Masako Gibeault of Japan and New York, respectively, dahlings.

The ceremonies were held at the church of the rich, Santuario de San Antonio in Forbes Park, on a blazing afternoon.

Rev. Fr. Jerry Manlangit was the main celebrant, with Rev. Fr. Toru Hishimoto, CSSR, as co-celebrant.

At 6 p.m., cocktails were served at the second level of the Peninsula Manila, followed by a lavish dinner reception at the grand ballroom.

The bride and groom met in my favorite Big Apple, New York City, where they both reside, dahlings.

Headed by President Macapagal-Arroyo, the list of the hotshot principal sponsors was formidable enough for us to think the newlyweds can build and furnish a complete house from their gifts alone.*palanggas*.

This included—roll call time: Executive Secretary Albert Romulo; Senators Loren Legarda and Manuel Villar; Secretary Josefina Lichauco and Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr; Chito Madrigal Collantes and Ambassador Alfonso Yuchengco (proxied by Rizalino Navarro); Imelda Cojuangco and Ambassador Bienvenido Tantoco; Nenita Floirendo and Mayor Jejomar Binay; Menchu Concepcion and former prime minister Cesar Virata; Doris Magsaysay Ho and architect Lor Calma; Cynthia Pastor and architect Ramon Antonio; Ethel Soliven Timbol and Mario Katigbak; Evangeline Pascual (representing Aida David Cancio) and David Lim; and Sandie Poblador and Ramon Hidalgo.

Most of the young and more mature bridal entourage jetted in from New York, and these included maid of honor Jacqueline Jacinto; best man Kenho Osawa; bridesmaids Justina Antonio Jacinto, Ayaka Sato, Melinda Tait and Victoria Cuesta; and groomsmen Jeremy Jacinto, Jeff Tait, Jeff Castañeda, Peter Zuratynsky, Jody Jacinto and David Snyder.

The secondary sponsors were Clarissa Hidalgo, Angelo Hidalgo, Ana Tan Santos, Mika Taki and Jody Jacinto. Ring bearer was cutie pie Jose Ramil Carlos, and the picture-perfect flower girls were Ma. Angela Sofia Carlos and Alexia Dagondon.

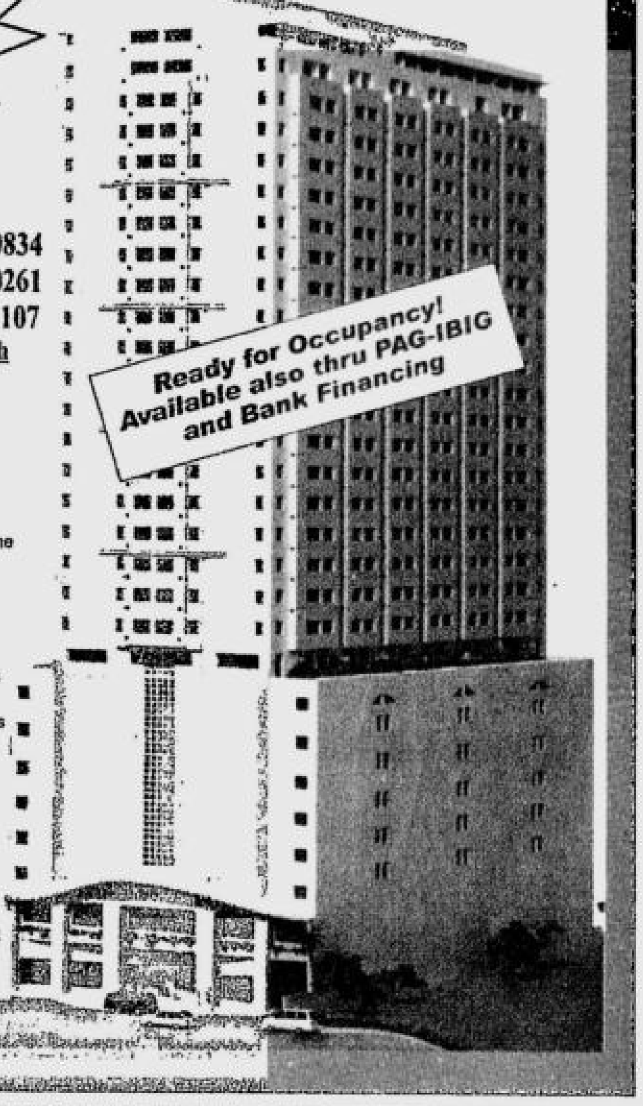
The young bride was absolutely radiant in a gorgeous creation by—still the king!—Pitoy Moreno, a pure silk duchess satin bias-cut strapless gown with a slight train. The upturned off-tangent bow at the back ended in a long train, clutched at the bow and sprayed with Swarovski beads and jewel stones.

A dazzling diamond tiara from Bulgari rested on Liezl's beautiful head, holding in place the long, soft illusion tulle veil.

Floral designer Tony Padilla and stylist Albert Avellana outdid

A WEDDING/ 12

YOU may kiss the bride.



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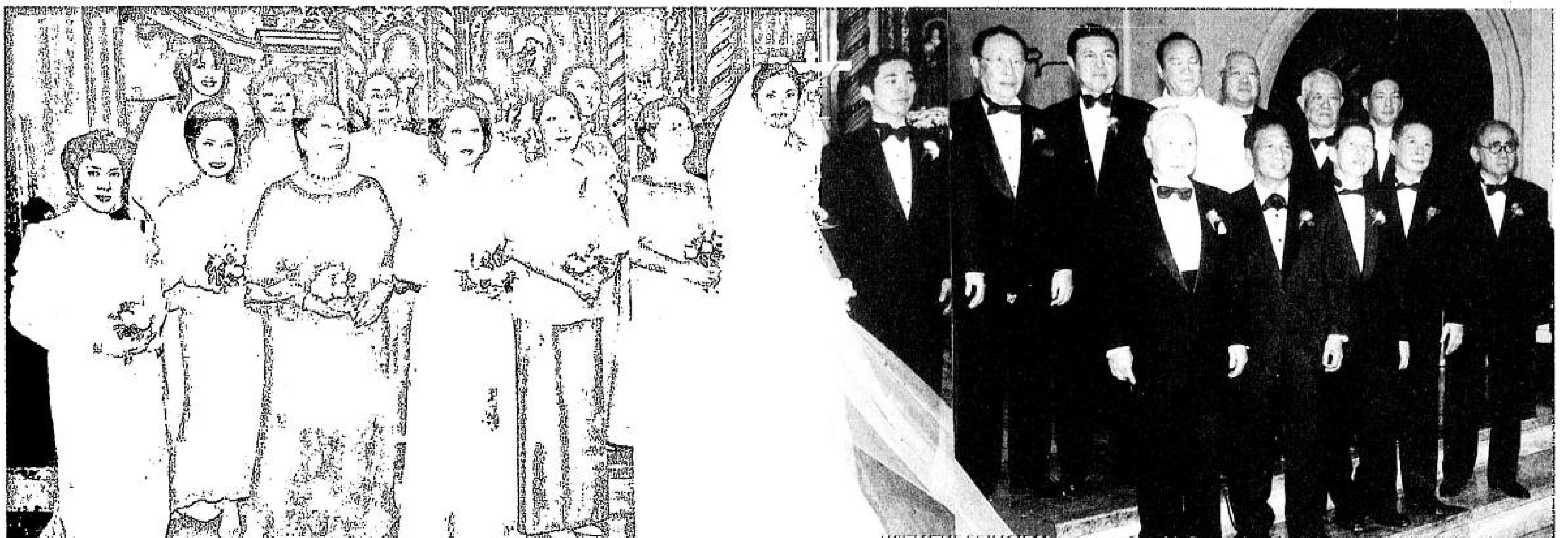

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A wedding of two worlds

From page L1

themselves by transforming the Rigodon Ballroom into a colorful Van Gogh painting, creating elegant, dazzling individual Zen flower arrangements on each table and framing the ballroom in sheer gauze curtains.

Renowned international pianist Raul Sunico did a fantastic number, "Rhapsody in Blue," after dinner was served.

Excellent wines from Anthony's Wines were carefully and meticulously selected by one of the best—Tita Trillo, no less!—for this chi-chi wedding, *palanggas*.

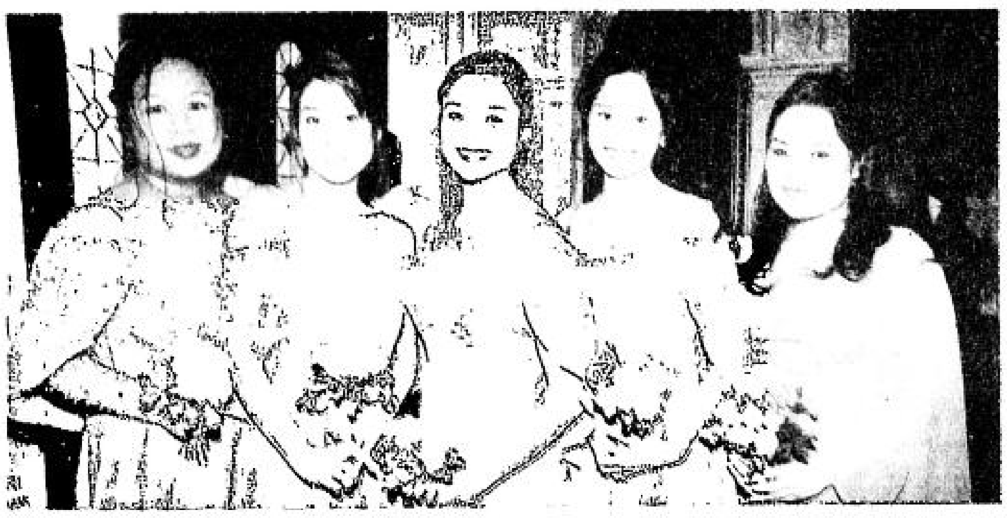
Poured endlessly were Agneau Blanc Bordeaux 1999 Baron Philippe de Rothschild, S.R., with the Profiterole of Spiced Prawns, and Chateau Clos de la Tour Reserve du Chateau Bordeaux Superior 2001 with the Rib Eye of Beef, in Red Wine Ginger Sauce.

The Sato-Jacinto wedding was definitely a blend of East and West, an event that jet-setters and hotshot personalities enjoyed and would definitely remember for a long time, dahlings.

Here's the best of everything to Mr. and Ms. Yukimura Sato. Cheers, *palanggas*!

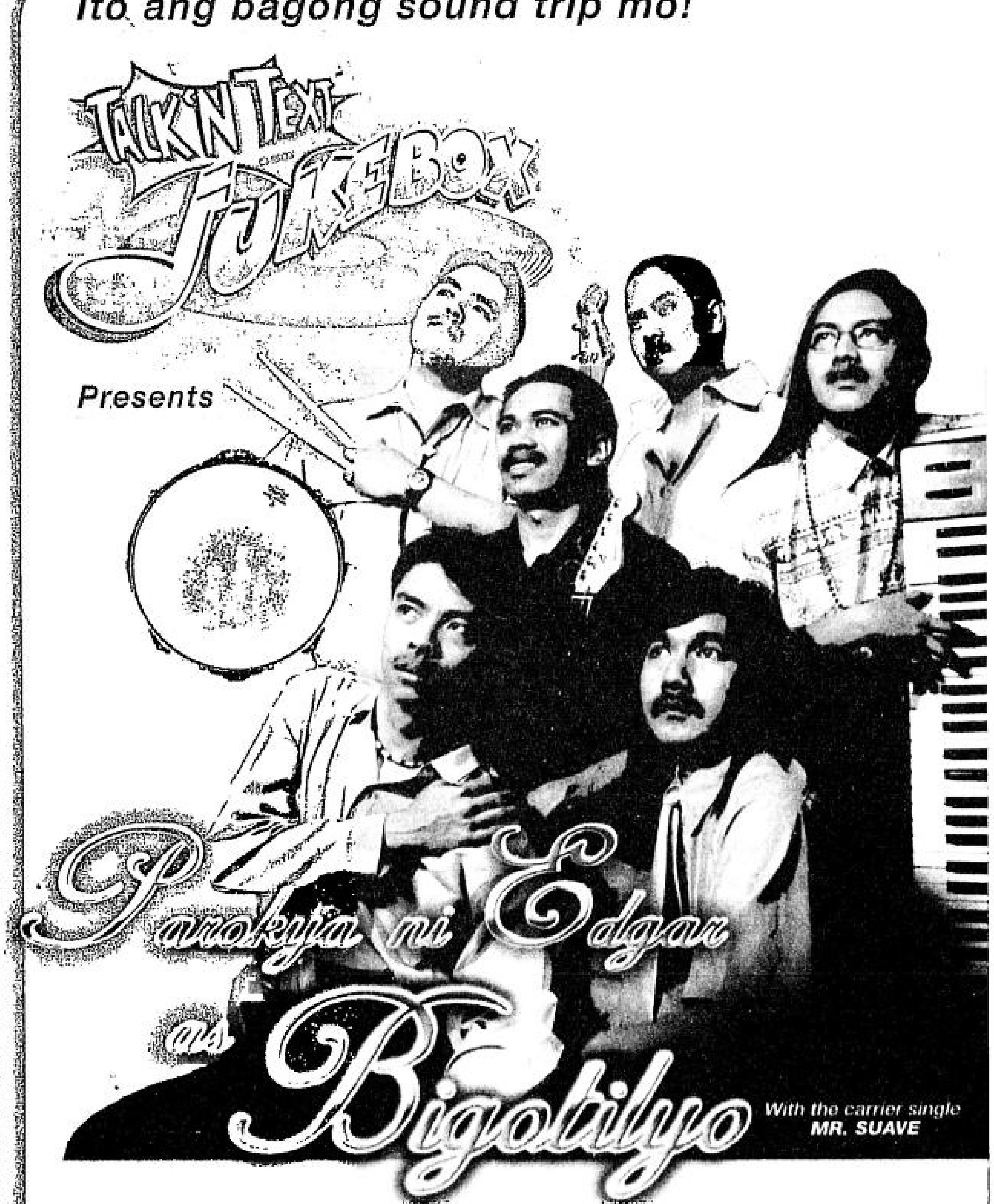
AGNES Huibonhua, Tina Jacinto and Baby Arenas

SECRETARY Cesar Sarino, Teena Sarino and Jun Leonor



MELINDA Manalo Tait, Ayaka Sato, Vicky Cuesta, Nina Antonio Jacinto and Jacqueline Jacinto

(**FIRST** row) Jeff Tait, Groom Yukimura Sato, Peter Zuratynsky, Angelo Hidalgo; (back row) Jeff Castañeda, Jeremy Jacinto, David Snyder and Jody Jacinto



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DELING Jacinto (right), with daughters Candy Jacinto Ochoa carrying Stephanie, Christine Jacinto and Cheryl Jacinto

MARIT Colomé Yuchengco and Paz Yuchengco

JOY Virata and Mila Magsaysay Valenzuela

MARIO Katigbak and Nini Licaros

DAVID Lim and Clarissa Hidalgo

DEAN Raul Sunico at the piano

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Ted Hannah	petedhan
The Yes Yes Show	peyesyes
Parang Ayaw Ko na Yata	peyokona
Buloy	pebuloy
Halaga	pehalaga
Harana	peharana
Inuman Na	peinuman
Okatokat	peokato
Please Don't Touch My Birdie	pebirdie

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TITLE OF THE SONG	KEYWORD
Sex Bomb Girls	
Bakit Papa?	bketpapa
Crush Kita	crush
Di Ko na Mapipigilan	mpgilan
Eraserheads	
Ang Huling El Bimbo	elbimbo
Ligaya	ligaya
Pare Ko	pareko
Toyang	toyang
With a Smile	widsmyl
Rivermaya	
214	214
Elesi	elesi
Hinahanap-Hanap Kita	hanap
Kisapmata	ksapmata
Ulan	ulan
Francis M.	
Kabataan Para sa Kinabukasan	kbataan
Kaleidoscope World	kaleido

TITLE OF THE SONG	KEYWORD
Jose Mari Chan	
Beautiful Girl	jcgirl
Can't We Start Over Again	jcstart
Constant Change	jcchange
Is She Thinking About Me	jcthink
Please Be Careful With My Heart	jcheart
Ariel Rivera	
Ayoko na Sana	ayoko
Minsang Lang Kitang Iibigin	mnsaning
Photograph	phtogrp
Simple Lang	smpleing
Jay Durias (South Border)	
Kahit Kailan	khitklan
Love of My Life	luvmylyf

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Milestones

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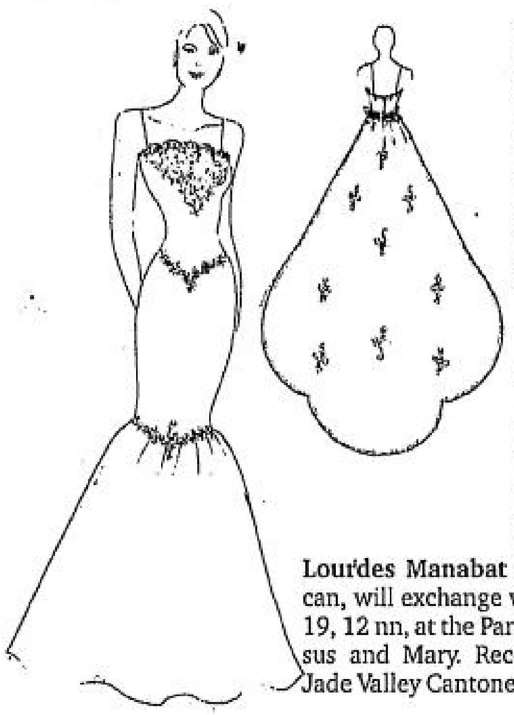
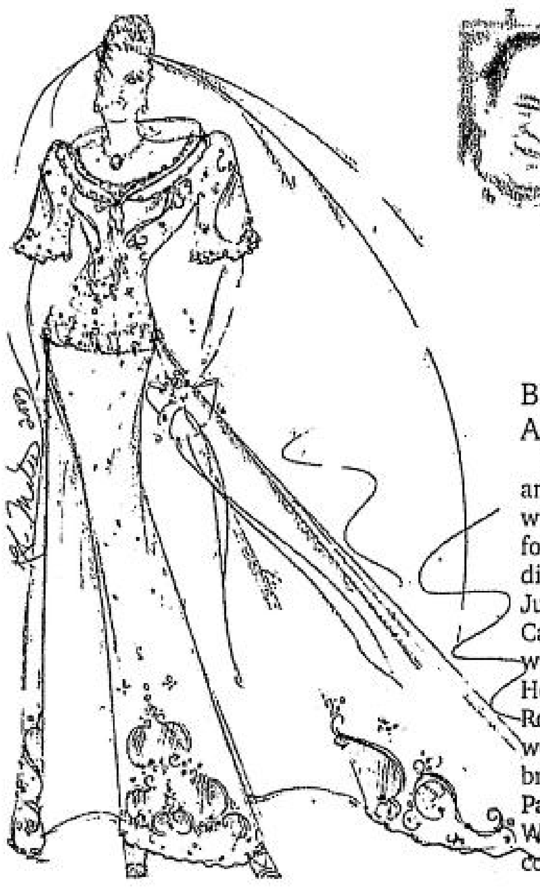


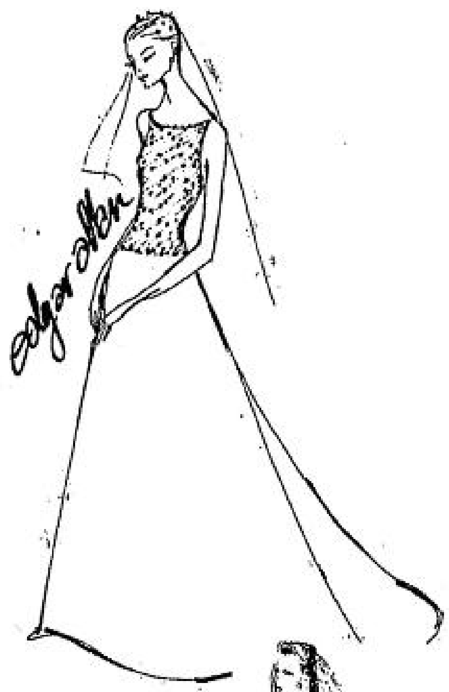
GONZALES-MANABAT

Ronald Anthony R. Gonzales, son of **Aurora Gonzales**, and **Maria Cristina P. Manabat**, daughter of **Leonardo** and **Lourdes Manabat** of San Miguel, Bulacan, will exchange wedding vows on July 19, 12 nn, at the Parish of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary. Reception will follow at Jade Valley Cantonese Cuisine.



BELO 50TH ANNIVERSARY

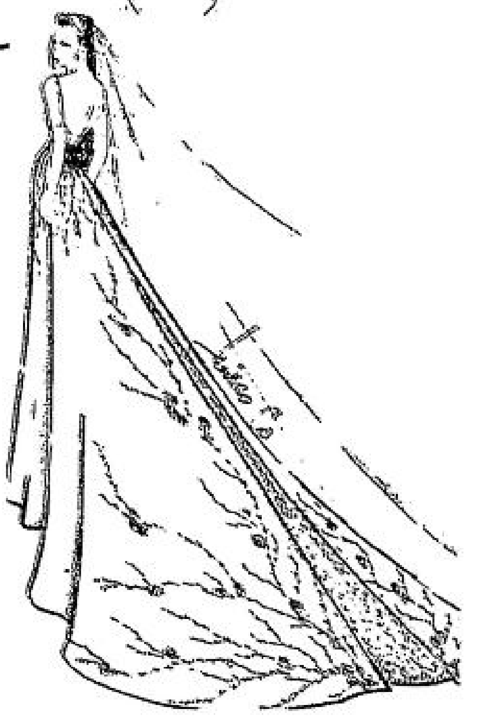
Erasmo B. Belo and **Felicitas Z. Belo** will renew their vows for their 50th wedding anniversary on July 17 at Manila Cathedral. Reception will follow at Manila Hotel, Polkabal Room. The bride will wear a *piña* silk embroidered gown by **Paul Rex Mateo** of Wedding Day, Bacoor, Cavite.



ESTACIO-VIRAY

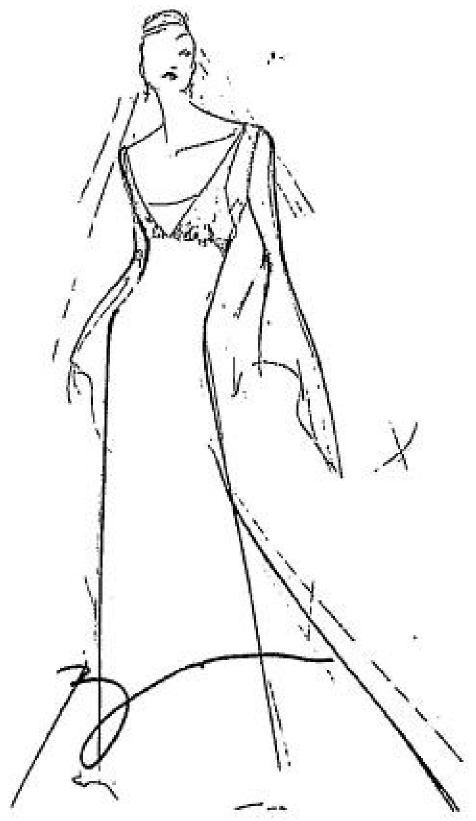
Edgar Allan designed the wedding gown of **Edith Viray** when she marched down the aisle with **John Estacio** on July 12 at the Chapel of Our Lady of Monserrat in San Beda.

Edith is the daughter of **Elena Cabrera Vda. Viray** while John is the son of **Vivencio** and **Teresita Estacio**.



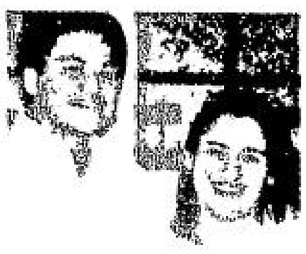
CHUA-YU

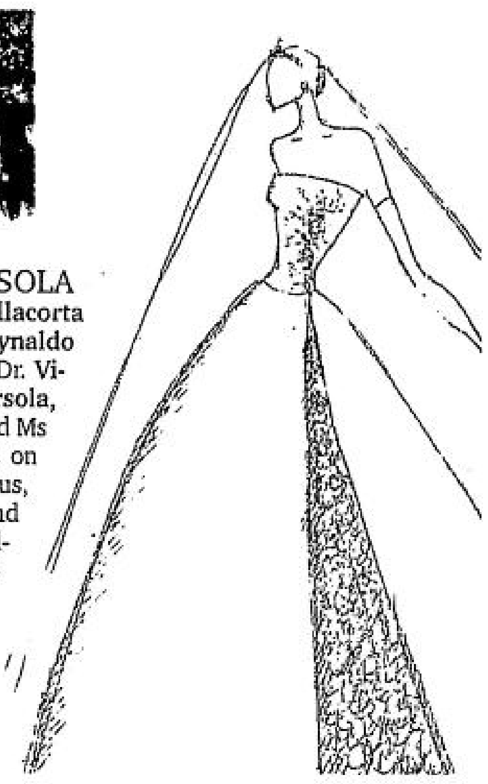
Chelyne Yu, daughter of **George** and **Josie Yu**, wed **Benny Chua**, son of **Benito** and **Erlinda Chua**, on July 6 at Grace Christian Church. Chelyne wore a bridal duchess white satin accentuated with shantung silk fully beaded in crystal and lilac with silver floral patterns designed by **Leonard Co.**



ADVINCULA-SERRANO

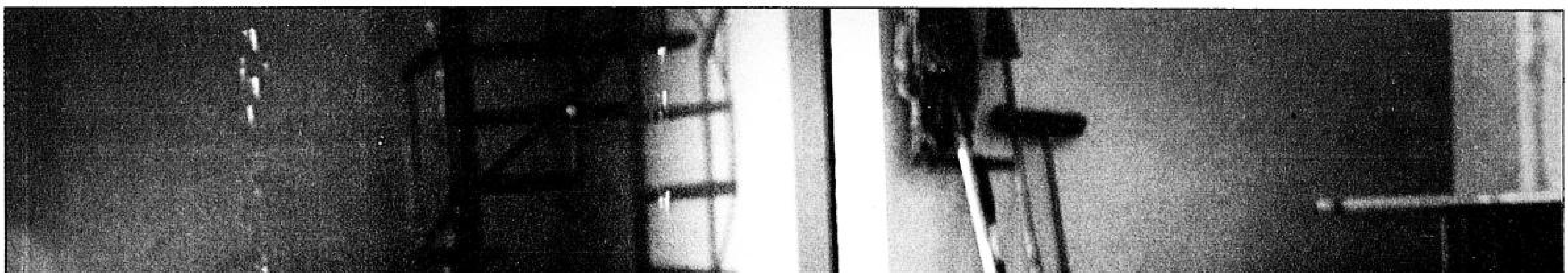
Dr. Anne Michelle V. Serrano, daughter of **Viki Serrano** and the late **Arturo Serrano** of Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City, and **Dr. Rolando C. Advincula**, son of **Evelina** and the late lawyer **Benedicto F. Advincula** of Mariveles, Bataan, exchanged matrimonial vows on July 12 at San Agustin Church. Reception followed at Rizal Ballroom of Shangri-La Makati. The gowns of the bride and entourage were designed and created by **Rajo Laurel.**





VILLACORTA-VERSOLA

Dr. **Reynaldo M. Villacorta II**, son of Mr. and Ms **Reynaldo G. Villacorta**, married Dr. **Viwena Theresa C. Versola**, daughter of engineer and Ms **Leduvino D. Versola**,. on July 12 at Shrine of Jesus, The Way, The Truth and The Life. Reception followed at Fernwood Gardens, catered by VS&F Classic Food International. The bride's and entourage's gowns were designed by **Roland Lirio.**



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Sunday LIFESTYLE
Weddings Engagements

Milestones

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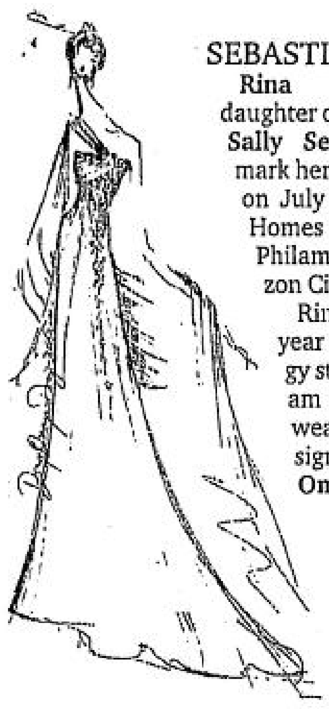
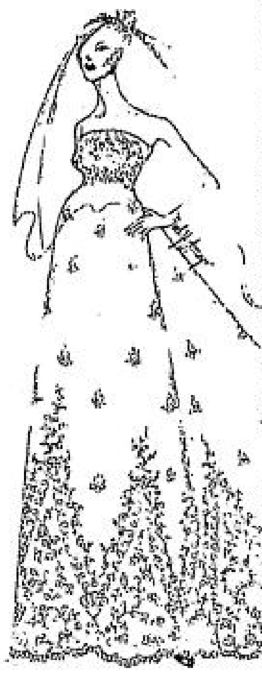


SEBASTIAN DEBUT

Rina Sebastian, daughter of **Dr. Roni** and **Sally Sebastian**, will mark her 18th birthday on July 27 at Philam Homes Clubhouse, Philam Homes, Quezon City.

Rina, a second year BS Psychology student of Miriam College, will wear a gown designed by **Dong Omaga-Diaz.**



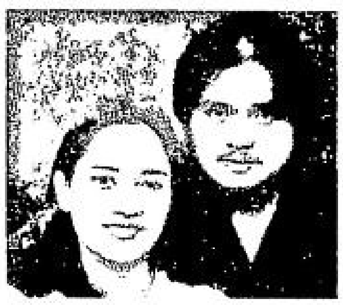
LUNDBACK-MCCORMICK

Kathryn Baun McCormick and **Erick Jerker Goran Lundback** were married at the Vika Church in Falun, Sweden, on June 28. Reception followed at Rankhyttan's Hergard. The bride wore a *piña* gown made by designer **Lyn Navarro.**

Kathryn is the daughter of **Arthur** and **Josephine McCormick**. Erick is the son of **Goran** and **Viola Lundback.**

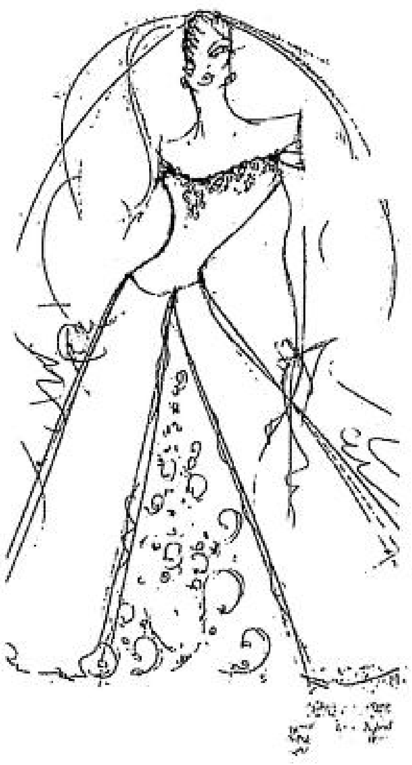
MAYO DEBUT

Bianca Kristine Mayo celebrated her debut at Cats Disco in New World Renaissance Hotel on June 28. Kristine wore a gown designed and executed by **Tito Franco.** She's a sophomore at De La Salle University.



AMADOR-ALEGRE

Arnold Amador, son of **Reynaldo** and **Cristina Amador**, exchanged vows with **Reahnne Belle Alegre**, daughter of **Angelito** (deceased) and **Rebecca Alegre**, on July 12 at Our Lady of the Angels Parish Church, Atimonan, Quezon. Reception followed at the OLAA covered court, Atimonan, Quezon. The bride wore a gown by **Paul Mateo.**



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TRAVEL

Editor **Rosario A. Garcellano**

A resort built on innovation

ENTRANCE to pleasure

Text and photos by Angelina G. Goloy
Contributor

Admired for the beauty and serenity of its beaches, Boracay nowadays also conjures up images of nearly naked bodies cavorting in abandon, no thanks to newspaper/magazine spreads and TV footage on bikini parades or beer-guzzling contests.

Alas for those not blessed with a figure fit to bare, or who are at least game to putting on the "Boracay attitude," such carnival-like events, now virtually *de rigueur* on the famed Aklan island, seem to become more daring with each staging.

But none perhaps could be bolder than the coup of sorts pulled last month by the Pink Patio Resort. It presented young dancing girls, all right, but they were draped in Maria Clara lace and frills or filigreed Muslim bridal finery—so brazenly incongruous to the setting, yet so refreshingly entertaining!

In an hour-and-a-half program billed "Sulyap," the lasses (and lads) of the multi-awarded Kalilayan Folkloric Group of Quezon enthralled the audience, not with any old "generic" *jota* or harvest ritual, but authentic Philippine dances, researched and culled from various regions of the country, and usually staged in such venues as the Cultural Center of the Philippines theater where, in fact, the group has performed.

Resort owners Charlie Uy and Kelly Boncan conceived of the novel presentation in commemoration of the 105th Independence Day, in what may well be their own declaration of freedom from formula attractions. Boncan's cousin, Rommel Padilla Serrano, a former member of the Ramon Obusan Folkloric Group, and founder of Kalilayan, fleshed out the concept as the show's artistic director-choreographer, as well as costume designer-maker.

Kalilayan—the old name of Tayabas, the province now known as Quezon, explains Boncan, whose family is from there—is composed mostly of students of the Manuel S. Enverga University Foundation High School of Catanauan town. The group is the 2001 champion of Timpalak Indakan, a dance competition sponsored by Nayong Pilipino.

Staged at the resort's convention hall, the program was divided into five segments, representing the three major island groups plus a collection of tribal rituals and popular fiesta dances. These included the "Ragragsakan," depicting the balancing act of Cordillera village women walking along rice terraces with *labba* baskets on their heads; the "Paseo de Andaluz," the courtship of a demure lady peeking at her suitor through the ruffled edges of her parasol; the "Singkil," the exotic Maranao wedding dance that is well-known even abroad; and the popular "Pandanggo sa Ilaw," "Maglalatik," and "Tinikling."

Even more charming were the little-known "Pindulas," a courtship dance of the Yakan of Basilan, characterized by the "broken-arm" movement; the "Pangamote" of the Talaandig of Bukidnon; and the "Karasaguyon" of the T'boli, which portrayed a polygamous male in the process of picking his next wife from among four sisters vying for his attention, with the jingling of the brass beads and bangles around their necks and waists the only musical accompaniment.

As a side attraction, the guests were invited to get into the mood of the dances by donning the costumes and having themselves photographed.

"This is our way of helping preserve the nationalist spirit... It's something our nation badly needs," said Uy, resort president. Granted, he conceded, "Sulyap" also served as a lean-season come-on although they weren't expecting any extra revenue from it. "We're just happy to present something novel," he said.

The show is but one of the many firsts on which Pink Patio built its reputation. Uy proudly rattled these off in a conversational style that's clearly an asset in a business like this: first to build air-conditioned rooms, fireproof guest room doors, to install a 40-foot-high wall for sports climbing, to open a gym, with the latest equipment not found even in Metro Manila, and—the resort's latest pride—the Alpha Capsule, a machine that steam-massages while playing soothing music.

"We're the only one on Boracay who has it," Uy said. Then he recounted his chance meeting with an American businessman that led to his flying to Minneapolis to check out the curious contraption, which he eventually imported.

The fiberglass wall is only one of two in the country (the other one is at Rockwell in Makati). The wall overlooks the swimming pool, which has fresh (not chlorinated) water and is fitted with a Jacuzzi.

"We pick up ideas from our travels around the country and abroad, and incorporate those that would further improve our services," he said. For this to work, he sends key people abroad to train and be exposed to international standards of operations and services. A seasoned traveler, he also teaches his staff what he knows.

A RESORT/ J3

British Columbia is serious wine country

DEEP in the heart of southern British Columbia, the neat little towns of Kelowna and Penticton sit happily on the sun-drenched shores of Lake Okanagan.

Surrounded by green forested mountains, merging with lush orchards and vineyards, they overlook the sparkling waters in a region that hosts over 50 wineries—the Okanagan Valley, the vintners' natural home.

Renowned for its viticulture, the Okanagan has flourished as a grape-growing region since the 1800s, and the locals take every opportunity to showcase their pride with an annual flurry of festivals.

In August, the Summer Festival pairs wine with art, through seminars, winemasters' dinners and progressive tastings. A highlight this year is "The Art of Cheese and Wine Pairing" at Silver Star Mountain Resort—Canadian Camembert with Gewurztraminer, Canadian Cheddar with Merlot, and Canadian Blue with Icewine.

In the fall, the region indulges in 10 October days of bacchanalian pleasure during festivals celebrating the grape harvest.

The Blind Wine Tasting at the Blue Gator Kelowna offers a novel tasting method where tipplers learn to identify their favorite varietals blindfolded. This experience is followed by a Blues band gig without the blindfolds. Next morning, be sure to search out, and join, a grape stomp.

The festival cycle starts all over again with winter and spring events throughout the valley providing an array of arts, culture and gastronomy. Take the opportunity to master some of the exotic dishes at the various cooking demonstrations, enjoy a basket of fruit and vegetables from a roadside stand, or just join another winery tour.

The wineries attract Canadian and US visitors who know their BC wines and know what they are looking for. They come for a weekend or longer, and carry home cases of wine after having spent a day or two sampling the vintages and enjoying the local cuisine.

The Okanagan Valley is at the northern tip of the Sonora Desert, so Kelowna enjoys over 2,000 hours of sunshine annually and even in the town center, fruit trees blossom and well-tended gardens bloom as the city's orchards and wineries take the abundant melt from distant snow-capped mountains.

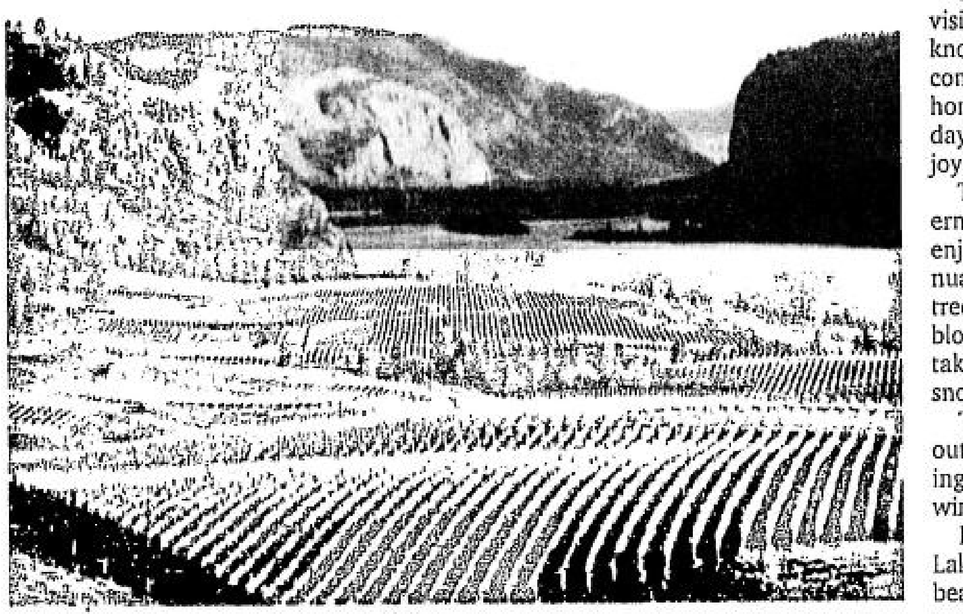
The surrounding countryside offers outdoor activities including golfing, hiking, mountain biking, water sports and winery tours.

Bordered by Okanagan and Skaha Lake, Penticton enjoys its warm sandy beaches, parks and golf courses. Not far out of town, a scenic mountain biking trail along the Kettle Valley railway bed is an easy ride on a rented bike.

You can drive or fly into either city from Vancouver or Calgary, or take the train to Kamloops, pick up a car and make your way to Vernon near the head of the lake. The gentle beauty and varied views make for an easy drive, down the lakeshore, the 128 kilometers through Kelowna and Penticton to Osoyoos, another wine and resort town near the US border. Highways are uncrowded, the driving is easy, and the road is flanked with wineries and plenty of golf courses.

Okanagan accommodations, in both town and country, range from luxury resorts to condos on the golf courses, through the spectrum of hotels, motels, B&Bs, guest ranches and a number of spas.

You can also rent houseboats on the lake for a few days. The fishing is excellent! **Richard Pennick**



VIEW of Vaseux Lake in Okanagan Valley

TOURISM BRITISH COLUMBIA

The following companies offer tours to the Okanagan Valley:

Brewster of Banff: "Wineries, Rail & Road," 7 days/6 nights via Rail, self-drive from Vancouver (tours@brewster.ca or http://www.brewster.ca/)

Brennan Vacations of Seattle: "Kelowna Getaway," 4 days/3 nights, self-drive from Kelowna. (info@canadaalacarte.com or http://www.brennanvacations.com/main.htm) Discover Holidays of Vancouver: "Valley of the Vineyards," 6 days/5 nights, self-drive from Vancouver (canada@discoverholidays.ca or http://www.discoverholidays.ca)

TRAVELBRIEFS

Dubai-Auckland

STARTING Aug. 1, Emirates will provide new access between Dubai and Auckland, the business capital of New Zealand.

This was announced recently by Emirates chair Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, who said the Dubai-based airline's daily flights to Sydney and Melbourne would be extended to Auckland, providing a total of 14 flights weekly in each direction.

The airline's daily flights to Brisbane, scheduled to start Oct. 26, will also be extended to Auckland, increasing its services across the Tasman Sea to 21 weekly.

Located on New Zealand's North Island, Auckland is called the "City of Sails" because of its extensive sailing and water sports facilities. It was recently ranked fifth—equal (alongside Copenhagen, Frankfurt, Bern and Sydney) in the annual quality-of-life survey of 215 cities by the global consultancy Mercer Human Resource Consulting.

Auckland's fertile valleys and offshore islands are home to award-winning wineries. Family attractions abound, as well as shopping, nightlife and unrivalled cuisine.

Emirates also plans to launch new services this year to Moscow, Shanghai and, subject to government approval, Lagos.

Established in 1985, the airline currently offers services to 64 cities in 45 countries in Europe, Middle East, Africa, the Indian subcontinent and Asia-Pacific.

It has received more than 200 international awards. This year alone, it has been voted Airline of the Year (Silver Award), Best Economy and Best Airline to the Middle East by Skytrax Research, and Passenger Service Airline of the Year by Air Transport World, USA.

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3-airline alliance

CONTINENTAL Airlines, Delta Air Lines and Northwest Airlines have announced that their customers may now take advantage of a new frequent flyer program and lounge benefits, in line with planned lower rates, increased service levels and broader choices of destinations.

While the three airlines will continue to operate independently and compete with one another for customers, the alliance is envisioned to enable each carrier to access a greater number of customers and preserve service to small communities and these communities' access to broad route networks.

Members of the three airlines' respective frequent flyer programs will be able to earn miles on flights operated by Continental, Continental Express, Continental Micronesia; Delta, Delta Express, Delta Shuttle, and Delta Connection Carriers including ASA, Comair, ACA, SkyWest and Chautauqua; Northwest, and Northwest Airlink partners Pinnacle Airlines and Mesaba Airlines.

For inquiries pertaining to Northwest, call Jenny Antiojo of EON, The Corporate Communications Network, at (02) 893-5690 or 893-5642 or e-mail jenny"eon.com.ph. Or visit Northwest's website at www.nwa.com.

'Balik-Manila'

BALIKBAYAN and local residents are invited to take a holiday at the Manila Pavilion under its latest promo, the "Balik-Manila Rate Break" package.

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The package, available until Sept. 30, includes superior room accommodations, buffet breakfast at Cafe Coquilla, special souvenir gift, free use of pool or gym, Casino Filipino pass, plus a 10-percent discount on food and beverage orders.

For inquiries and reservations, call (63-2) 526-1212 extension 2333 or 2343 or e-mail reservations@manilapavilion.com.ph.

A resort built on innovation

From page J2

For instance, Uy cooks. "All the recipes prepared here are mine, I myself taught my chief cook," he said, ushering the visitor into another one of his prized investments, the stainless-steel kitchen of the Golden Bamboo restaurant. "You see this usually only in big hotels," he said.

Much of the resort's look was first designed in his mind, and that includes the mini-garden right within the toilet-and-bath in the ground-floor guest rooms. Quite unorthodox, but one just has to agree that it adds a disarming touch to one's private rituals.

"And did you notice that your bed has a bed pad? That's five-star-hotel world standards for you," he added. Moreover, guests can go to sleep secure in the thought that the 4,000-square-meter resort is monitored by a 24-hour 16-camera closed-circuit system with infrared and motion-detect capability.

All these big investments are virtual "giveaways" to patrons. Returns come in the form of recognition, such as the Department of Tourism's Kalakbay Award as Resort of the Year for Western Visayas, and the corresponding award for guest relations officer, Jonas Palomata.

To succeed, one needs to invest more in terms of time and common sense, so that one constantly learns and gets a sense of what satisfies patrons, remarked Uy, whose main line is real estate. That Pink Patio is not his bread and butter probably accounts for his gung-ho management style.

To begin with, he never imagined that his six-room *sawali* beach house would evolve into a business, one of only three among the 200-plus Boracay resorts rated Triple A, or the equivalent of five stars. The family vacation house, built in the early 1980s, was also open to relatives and friends who were, in effect, the first (satisfied) customers, although Uy never charged them anything.

"They usually offered token amounts," he said.

Word got around and soon the beach house could no longer hold its growing number of guests. When the adjacent lot went up for sale, Uy bought it and built 10 guest rooms. Another adjacent lot was bought, and the resort now had 45 rooms. Until last year, it was the biggest resort on Boracay with 65 rooms.

Of all the tags and titles Pink Patio has earned, however, the one Uy is probably most proud of is this: It is home to the Search and Rescue Group of the Philippine Air Force. The 44-man team, half of whom are Pink Patio employees, is the first to respond to disasters at sea. Among its equipment are two rescue rubber boats and two 100-pound fire extinguishers. Uy also makes available his own Cessna plane.

Formed in 1998, the team is an offshoot of Uy's serious interest in flying, a diversion he pursued when he turned 50, eventually becoming a commissioned PAF officer.

He said the team, which included scuba divers, had its "baptism of fire" in December 1998 when 56 pump boats, along with the floating bar, sank at the height of a big typhoon.

"We rescued several boat men," he recalled.

On the eve of my return to Manila, a storm threatened the island. Its strong winds tousled the treetops, flipped the tricolor that decked the balcony outside the second-floor guest rooms, and prevented a local official from crossing the river to watch "Sulyap."

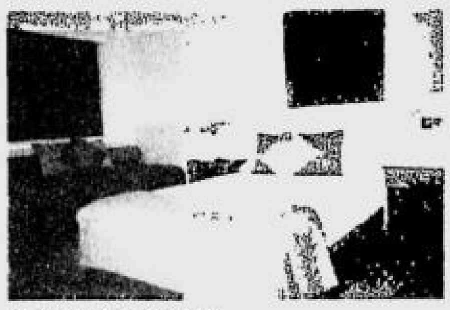
I understood then what those giant bamboo-framed screens propped against palm trees along the beach just a few meters from the beach-front resorts were for: protection from "sandstorms."

Tucked inland, Pink Patio was safe. While beach-front resorts braced for the typhoon (read: lean) season, Uy's head was swimming with ideas.

Guests need not stay cooped up in their rooms during a downpour, he proposed. "We can turn the rain into an advantage. Rommel is choreographing a rain dance, and we'll invite guests even from other resorts to go out to the beach and dance—to welcome the rain, ask it to go away, whatever... We're going to have a rain festival!"

Pink Patio is on the brink of another trend-setting innovation.

"SULYAP," a fine glance at Philippine dances



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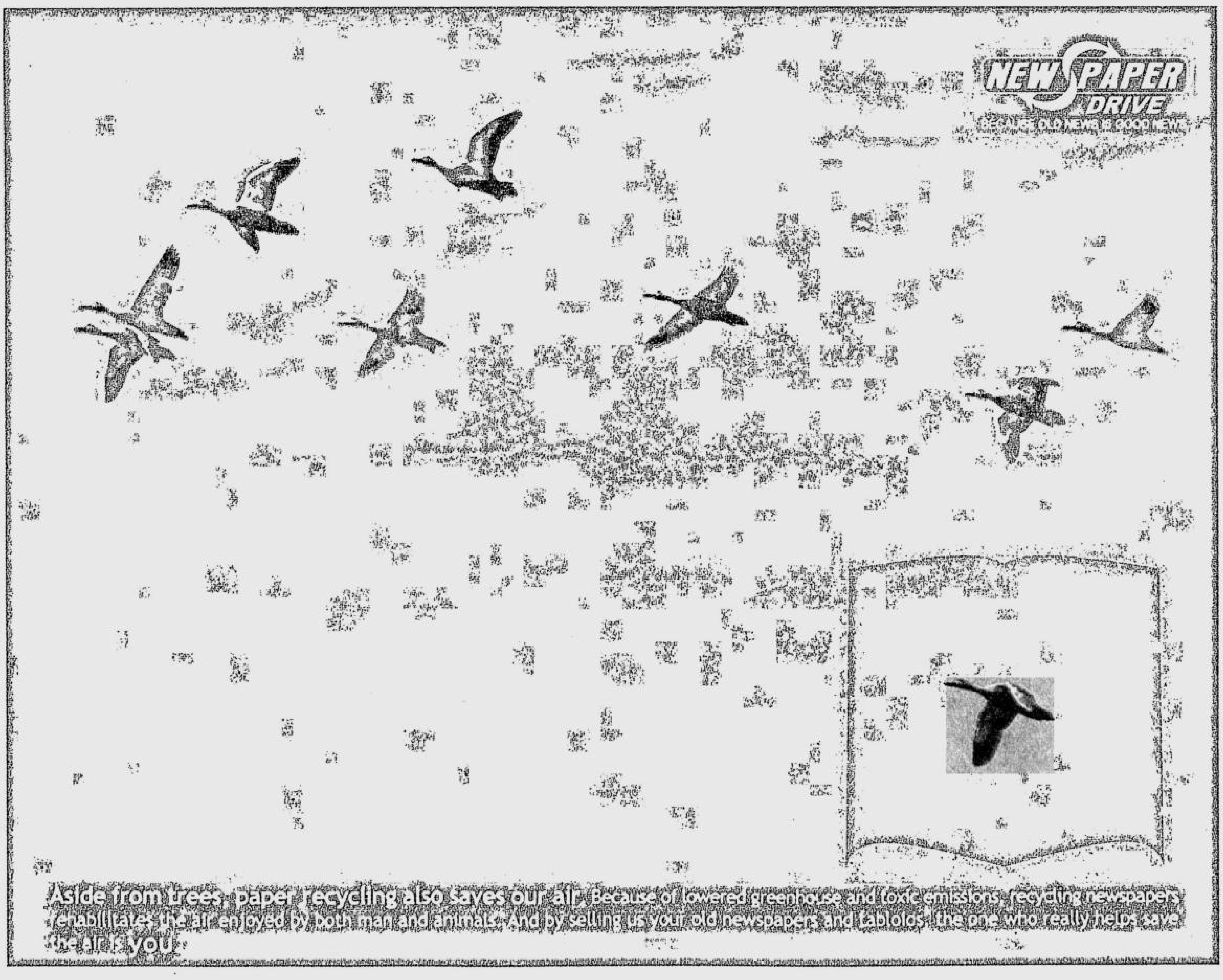

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- Proficient in Microsoft Software applications
- Strong interpersonal/communication skills; can work effectively across language and cultural barriers

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- At least 28 years old.
- Graduate of Psychology or Liberal Arts.
- With at least 5 years supervisory experience in Human Resources Management.
- Computer literate, with advanced skills in MS office.

ADMIN ASSISTANT

- Male or Female, between 22-25 years old.
- Graduate of any four-year course from a reputable college or university.
- With at least one year work experience in clerical/administrative function.
- Computer literate, with advanced skills in MS Office.

PROJECT ENGINEER

- Male, between 30-35 years old.
- Licensed Civil Engineer, preferably a graduate of Mapua, computer literate, knowledgeable in MS Office.
- Minimum of 5 years experience in design & construction / project management of high rise buildings.

RECEPTIONIST

- Female, between 21-25 years old..
- Graduate of any four-year college course.
- Attractive, organized and with good command of the English language.
- Preferably with similar work experience.

Qualified applicants may send their comprehensive resume with transcript of records to:

HR DEPARTMENT: 7/F METROBANK PLAZA
SEN. GIL PUYAT AVENUE, MAKATI CITY 1200
or email your resume with colored photo to hr@federalland.com.ph
Indicate position on the SUBJECT line.

Walk-in applicants will not be entertained.

To the successful candidate, we offer above industry compensation and benefits with a working environment that provides excellence.

AusAID

The Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) is responsible for the delivery of Australia's Development Cooperation Program to the Philippines. AusAID is now seeking the services of a Filipino citizen to fill the position of:

PROGRAM MANAGER - DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Applicants should have a well-developed understanding of aid program issues and practices relating to one or more priority program issues and proven management skills. A capacity to deal with Australian contractors and/or local consultants is essential. A willingness to travel throughout the Philippines, particularly Mindanao is also required. The successful applicant will contribute to the efficient and effective delivery of the development cooperation program by providing quality policy support, effective management of a small activity and contract management team, sound advice to senior management, and administrative support within a multi-functional, cross-cultural environment.

The key responsibility areas of the position are:

1. **Support for policy and program development** -contribute to the development, formulation and review of policies, programs and activities in particular livelihood, geographic and/ or cross cutting areas.
2. **Managing the implementation of a program portfolio** -manage a range of thematic issues and complex activities (programs, projects and facilities) within particular livelihood, geographic and/ or cross cutting areas in accordance with relevant AusAID policies, procedures and quality standards.
3. **Managing resources** - contribute to efficient and effective utilization of human, financial, material, and other resources in accordance with relevant policies and procedures.
4. **General representation and liaison** -contribute to the establishment and strengthening of effective relationships with development cooperation partners and stakeholders. Contribute to raising awareness of the Australian Development Cooperation Program
5. **Support for AusAID's corporate programs and priorities** - support for the effective and efficient implementation of Corporate programs and priorities. Actively participate and respond to corporate initiatives.
6. **Administrative, logistic, and technical support** - within the AusAID Policy and Program Monitoring Unit, assist other team members manage appropriate technical, administrative, and logistic support for the delivery of the development coooperation program.

Applicants should address their written applications against the following criteria:

ESSENTIAL SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE:

- ☐ Well developed understanding of development issues and in-depth knowledge of key national & international agencies
- ☐ Proven contract and staff management skills
- ☐ Good work planning and organizational skills
- ☐ Good negotiation and facilitation skills
- ☐ Demonstrated communication and representational skills
- ☐ Working knowledge of Microsoft office software applications
- ☐ Excellent command of written and spoken English
- ☐ Good technical writing skills
- ☐ Strong analytical skills

EXPERIENCES AND/OR QUALIFICATIONS:

- ☐ Minimum 5 years experience in program/ project development and management with a focus on policy research and analysis
- ☐ Experience in working in a multi-cultural environment
- ☐ Experience in dealing with donors, the government, NGOs and other related institutions
- ☐ Ability to work in a team environment
- ☐ Ability to give sound advice and policy direction
- ☐ Appropriate tertiary qualifications

The successful applicant will be expected to commence in August 2003. The commencing salary is negotiable within the range of P75,000 to P96,000 per month depending upon qualifications and experience. The position is available on a 2-year contract basis.

Applications addressing the above criteria and including details of two work-related referees should be sent to the following address by 25 July, 2003.

THE COUNSELLOR (DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION)

Development Cooperation Section - Australian Embassy

PO Box 1071, Makati, Metro Manila

Envelopes should be clearly marked "**PROGRAM MANAGER - AUSAID**". Only those selected for interview will have their applications acknowledged.

AusAID is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) employer and maintains a smoke-free working environment.

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syngenta

Syngenta, formed by the merger of Novartis Crop Protection AG and Zeneca Agrochemicals, is a world-leading agribusiness company. It employs some 20,000 people in over 90 countries worldwide, and achieved gross sales of US$6.2 million in 2002. The company is committed to sustainable agriculture through innovative crop protection and seeds solutions.

Our vision is to be ***the leader in the business of empowering crop growers***. Key to the achievement of this vision is our people.

As we become more competitive, the quality of our people is vital to our success. In making this a reality, we are currently seeking for a dynamic, competent, and highly independent individual to join our team as:

CREDIT & COLLECTION OFFICER

Our Credit & Collection Officer is responsible for the efficient credit and collection management through close monitoring and in-depth analysis of trade accounts receivable.

Qualifications:

- Graduate of Accounting or any Business course
- Preferably male, 25 – 35 years old with at least 2 years work experience in credit and collection management
- Equipped with good interpersonal skills, negotiation, and analytical abilities
- Possesses excellent oral and written communication skills
- Proficient in Excel and other Windows-based applications, knowledge in BPCS or SAP is an advantage
- Willing to travel extensively

Competitive compensation and benefits package and career development opportunities await successful candidates.* Interested parties may send their credentials to

The Human Resource Department
Syngenta Philippines, Inc.
9/F Salcedo Towers, 169 HV Dela Costa St.,
Salcedo Village, Makati City
Email: team.hr@syngenta.com

An international bank is now looking for an:

Analytics Officer

Candidates must have the following qualifications:

- Bachelor degree in Economics, Industrial/Management Engineering, Business, Statistics, Mathematics, or Physics
- A strong quantitative background with at least 3 years working experience in the analysis of mathematical/statistical models or date mining.
- Proficient in a high-level computer language such as C++ or Pascal
- Possesses excellent communication skills, must be able to present technical results to a non-technical audience

Candidates with the following credentials will be preferred:

- An M.S. degree or MBA
- Is knowledgeable in the SAS programming language
- Has worked in the financial industry or experience in economic research

Please submit your resumés to:

Human Resource Department
RE: ANALYTICS OFFICER
PO BOX 3187
QUEZON CITY

spi healthcare documentation

SPI Technologies Inc. is Asia's largest independent BPO (business process outsourcing) services provider. We have a successful 20-year track record of serving Fortune 500 and Global 1000 companies.

To cater to the extensive requirements of our clients in the global healthcare industry, our Healthcare Documentation Services business unit is inviting qualified and highly motivated applicants for:

EXPERIENCED MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONISTS (code: MT)
MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONIST TRAINEES (code: MTT)

Transcribe dictation by physicians and other healthcare professionals regarding patient assessment, workup, therapeutic procedures clinical course, diagnosis, prognosis, etc.

EXPERIENCED MEDICAL EDITORS (code: ME)

Management of shift's production, and primary problem-solver. Proofreading and editing of completed documentation produced by medical transcriptionists.

Qualifications:
- Graduates of Nursing, Physical or Occupational Therapy, Medical Technology, Psychology, Biology or other allied health courses, non-practicing medical doctors or undergraduates of Medicine
- Preferably, with at least a year of experience in hospitals, clinics or other similar industries. For MTs and MEs, at least 1-3 years of experience in medical transcription or other similar industries.
- Ability to operate word processing equipment, computers, dictation and transcription equipment.
- Ability to transcribe at least 40 words per minute (wpm).
- Excellent hearing acuity and listening skills.
- Must possess above average comprehension, problem solving and analytical skills.
- Excellent communication skills in English.
- Willing to work in any shift.
- Willing to be assigned in Parañaque City.
- New graduates belonging to the Top 20 percent of their class are encouraged to apply.

PROJECT OFFICERS (code: PO)

Qualifications:
- Bachelor's degree holders in Mathematics, Statistics, Computer Science, Economics, Engineering, Management or related fields
- With at least 2 years of supervisory work experience in a manufacturing industry.
- Exposure in a work environment involving system and/or workflow design and implementation. Exposure in Project Management is a definite advantage.
- Adept interpersonal communicators and possess excellent command of spoken and written English.
- Must possess excellent leadership and organizational management qualities.
- Ability to motivate and influence project personnel and situation to support organizational and project objectives.
- Must possess a high level of customer service orientation.

TRAINING SUPERVISORS (code: TS)

Qualifications:
- Graduates of any four or five-year course.
- At least 2 years training and development work experience in medical transcription or other similar industries.
- Excellent hearing acuity and listening skills.
- Proficient in basic computer operations, word processing equipment, and internet applications.
- Excellent communication skills in English.
- Strong analytical and problem solving skills.
- Excellent leadership and organizational management qualities.

Qualified applicants may look forward to a competitive compensation and benefits package, generous performance incentives program, career advancement opportunities for high performers and a chance to interact with global clients.

Interested candidates may send their resumé with an updated photo to: 2nd floor Sky Freight Building C NAIA Avenue corner Pascor Drive, Parañaque City 1700 or email the requirements to r.araga@spitech.com

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A US based technology company developing, manufacturing, marketing and selling industry standard defining high-end solid state storage solutions is currently in the process of setting up its Philippine office to support its world wide R&D, manufacturing and marketing and sales operations.

SALES PERSONNEL
○ Graduate of BS ECE, CE, CS or its equivalent, MBA and/or MSEE a plus
○ At least 5 years of relevant experience in IT Hardware and/or STORAGE industry field
○ Self-motivated, driven and resourceful with the ability to work independently
○ Project Management and Business Analysis skills/experience
○ Excellent formal presentation skills
○ Excellent organizational and problem-solving skills
○ Strong negotiating skills with excellent oral and written communicating skills
○ Proven track record in successfully closing and managing large accounts
○ Willing to travel abroad.

JUNIOR SALES PERSONNEL
○ Graduate of BS ECE, CE, CS or related discipline
○ At least 2-5 years relevant technical sales experience
○ Experience in IT Hardware and/or storage industry field
○ Excellent organizational and problem-solving skills
○ Strong negotiating skills
○ Excellent Oral and written communication skills

HARDWARE ENGINEERS
○ BS in EE, ECE, CoE, CS or related discipline
○ Experience in ASIC, Firmware, Board Layout, FPGA.
○ Knowledge in Digital Design (chip, board and system level).
○ Experience in Storage Systems preferred.
○ Familiarity with SCSSI, IDE and Fibre Channel protocols an advantage.
○ Solid verbal and written communications skills

SOFTWARE ENGINEERS
○ BS in CS, BS CoE, ECE or related discipline
○ High comfort level with C, C+, C++, JAVA Windows, Unix.
○ Experience in Storage Systems preferred.
○ Solid verbal and written communications skills
○ Familiarity with SCSSI, IDE and Fibre Channel protocols an advantage.
○ Excellent documentation and organizational skills

CUSTOMER/TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEER
○ BS in CoE, CS EE, ECE, or related discipline
○ 5 years or more experience in I.T. hardware and/or storage industry field
○ Knowledge of ATA, SCSI, Fibre Channel, Serial ATA, PCI, PCI-X protocols
○ C language coding experience to debug firmware related issues.
○ Proficiency in JTAG emulators (Diab, Greenhills, etc.)
○ CAD tools (AutoCAD, ProE, SolidWorks, etc.)
○ Solid TECH background. Solid verbal and written. communications skill

Opportunity for possible overseas training.
Very competitive compensation commensurate to experience and qualifications.
Attractive commission structure for sales opportunities to huge growth markets.

We regret that only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

Please send resume to techjobs@mgbsi.com
and/or send to 1523 Herrera Tower, 98 Herrera St.,
Salcedo Village, Makati City

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a corporation created through a majority foreign equity participation is involved in manufacturing, marketing, sales and distribution. Among the products that we carry are:

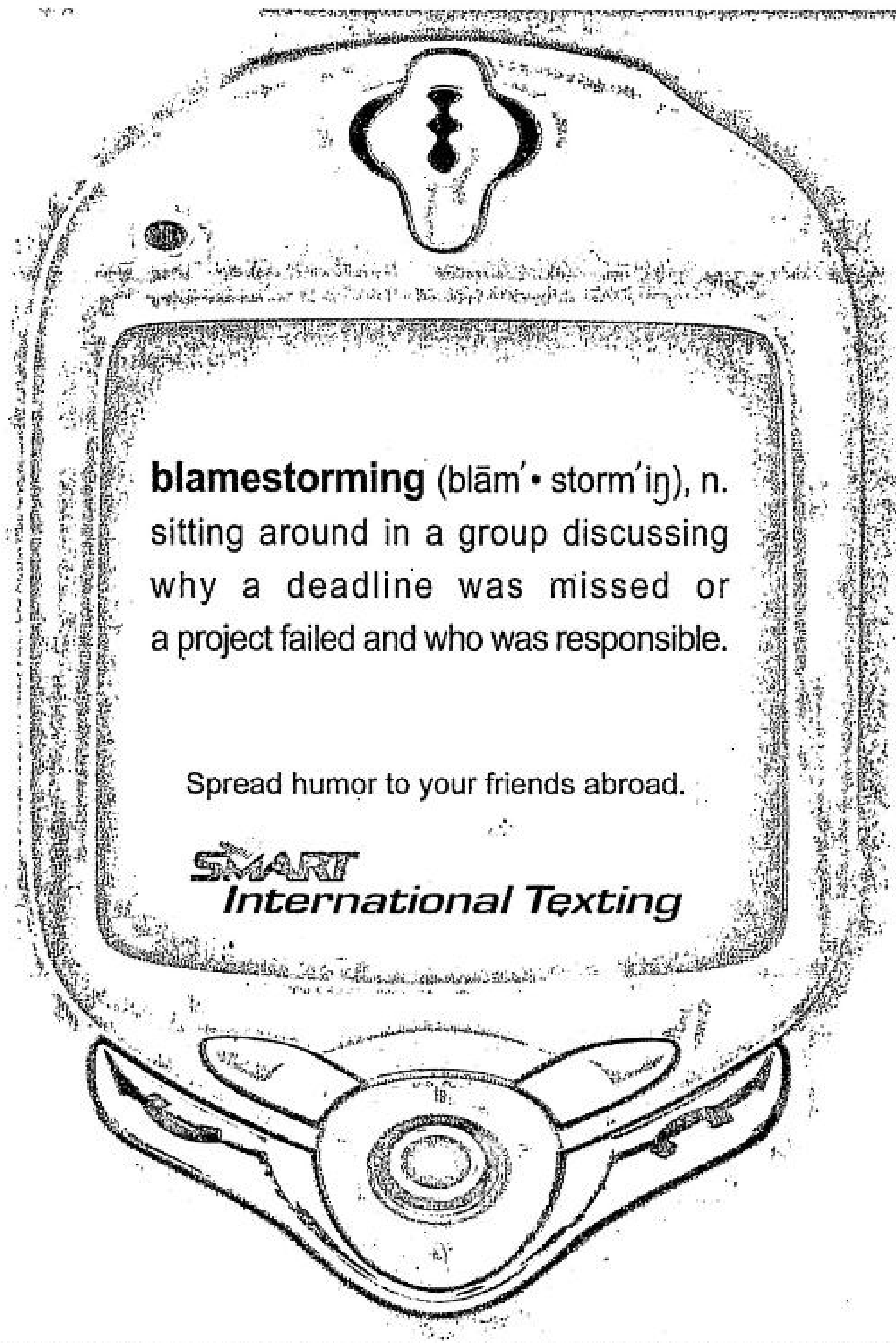
W. BROWN
K·SWISS
U.S. COLLEGE

BUSINESS PROCESS ANALYSTS (2) (HO)
Preferably graduate of BS Industrial Engineering; 1 year experience in business process analysis and work flows; excellent knowledge in computer systems; willing to take project based employment.

SERVICE CENTER ADMINISTRATORS (2) (Bogo Cebu & Ormoc)
Graduate of any business course; preferably with work experience in inventory planning and warehousing; experience in a sales or service establishment is an advantage; computer literate.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE (HO)
Graduate of any course; with knowledge in logistics; with excellent communication and customer service skills.

Send your letter of application, comprehensive resume and 2x2 colored picture to:
For HO:
GLOBAL BRANDS COMPANY, INC.
573 Gloria St., Marick Subd. Cainta, Rizal
Tel. No. (02)6550790 loc. 137 E-mail: hrd-recruitment@globalbrands.com.ph
For Bogo Cebu & Ormoc:
Cebu Capital Commercial Complex, N. Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. No. (032)2556882



blamestorming (blām′• storm′iŋ), n. sitting around in a group discussing why a deadline was missed or a project failed and who was responsible.

Spread humor to your friends abroad.

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The first to let you text to over 100 destinations worldwide.

Use this format for International Texting:

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Questions? Comments? Concerns? Call the SMART Hotline at 888-1111, text us at 888, e-mail us at customercare@smart.com.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

SMART *Simply Amazing!*

We now seek innovative, highly motivated professionals with strong leadership ability to join our dynamic team.

SITE / OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR (Male)
- Graduate of Mechanical Engineering/Minimum 3 years relevant experience
- Excellent interpersonal communication and leadership skills
- Proficient in computer application (MS Word/MS Excel)

PURCHASING & LOGISTIC COORDINATOR
- College Graduate/Female/Single/not more than (25 years old)
- Minimum 3 years relevant experience
- With excellent work habits & must be results-oriented
- Proficient in computer application (Microsoft Word/Excel)

An excellent remuneration package awaits successful candidates.

Interested Candidates are invited to send or submit personally your comprehensive resumé and 2X2 colored picture to

HEXAGON TOWER PHILIPPINES INC.
18 B. Elisco Road, Brgy. Ibayo, Tipas, Taguig, Metro Manila
Tel. 640-9590 trunk line (HRD DEPT.)

JAK Milestone Food Corp.
(a franchise of Jollibee Foods Corp.)
is in need of
Management Trainees & Store Marketing Officers

Qualifications:
- 21-26 years old
- College degree holder, preferably a graduate of Business, HRM or Marketing
- Proficient in both written & oral English
- Self-motivated
- Dynamic & Results-oriented
- Customer service oriented

Please send updated resumé and transcript of records together with a recent 2x2 photo to:
#16 Gen. Gutierrez St., San Juan, Metro Manila

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BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL SERVICES

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Excellent Employment Benefits

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- **FREE License Fee**
- **Licensure Exam**
- **FREE Three month housing**
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And much much more !

Employer will conduct interviews on

July 25 & 28, 2003
8:00 am to 4:00 pm
MARRIOT HOTEL
Cardinal Rosales Avenue, Cebu City

and

July 30 & 31, August 1 & 4, 2003
8:00 am to 4:00 pm
MAKATI SHANGRI-LA
Ayala Ave. cor. Makati Avenue, Makati City

Please bring your credentials

For more information contact or visit us at
1503 San Gregorio St. cor. Penafrancia St. Paco Manila
Tel. # 8822935 / 5623906 / 5641245
E-mail: whitebirdagency@yahoo.com

NO PLACEMENT FEE, SALARY DEDUCTIONS OR ANY HIDDEN FEES.

RAMCAR GROUP OF COMPANIES

Invites World-Class Applicants for the following Job Opportunities:

EDM OPERATORS

☐ Male, 21-28 years old; Trade School graduate.
☐ Must have at least 1-2 years work experience as EDM Operator.
☐ With knowledge on PLC, EDM wiring, etc.

ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN

☐ Male, 25-35 years old; Trade school graduate in Industrial Electronics or at least 3 years in ECE.
☐ With at least 2-3 years related work experience in manufacturing concerns.
☐ Place of Assignment: Sta. Maria, Bulacan

PLANT NURSE

☐ Male, 25-31 years old; must be a Registered Nurse.
☐ With experience in Industrial/Occupational Nursing.
☐ Computer literate with good leadership and communication skills.
☐ Willing to be assigned in Sta. Maria, Bulacan.

CHEMIST

☐ Male/Female, 26-28 years old; graduate of B.S. Chemistry.
☐ Must have at least 2-3 years exposure in chemical plant analysis and preferably with previous work experience in sulfuric acid plant.

QUALITY SYSTEMS ENGINEER & Q.A. SUPERVISOR

☐ Male/Female, 21-30 years old; B.S. M.E./ChE or Statistics graduate.
☐ Must have at least 2 years related work experience as Q.S./Q.A. Engineer preferably in a large manufacturing concern.
☐ Must have exposure on ISO 9000/14000, SPC, TQM, 5S, Kaizen and other Quality Systems.
☐ Excellent communication and leadership skills.

SAFETY OFFICER

☐ Male, 25-40 years old; BS M.E. or E.E. graduate. License required.
☐ MUST have at least 5 years related work experience as Safety Officer/Engineer in a manufacturing set-up.
☐ Must have excellent leadership and communication skills.
☐ Willing to be based in Sta. Maria, Bulacan.

MECHANICAL SUPERVISOR

☐ Male, 25-35 years old; graduate of BS Mechanical Engineering.
☐ With experience in repair and maintenance of heavy equipment and dust filter baghouse and with skills in hydraulic and pneumatics.
☐ For Marilao, Bulacan assignment.

☑ **WE OFFER ATTRACTIVE COMPENSATION & BENEFITS PACKAGE.**

ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO APPLY PERSONALLY WITH THEIR RESUME, 2X2 PICTURE AND T.O.R. TO:

CORPORATE RECRUITMENT SECTION (BATTERY GROUP)
RAMCAR CENTER
80-82 Roces Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

✧ *Previous applicants need not apply.*

Seventeen Young Co.

The Total Fashion Specialty Store
is in need of

FASHION DESIGNER

for Ready to Wear "Ladies & Men's"

- Male or female; Graduate of Fine Arts or Fashion Designing
- Knowledgeable in Fabrics and Color Combinations/Fabric Consumptions
- Good in sketching; must be able to illustrate her ideas on paper and knows how to execute her designs
- With at least 3 years experience in the same field
- Please bring folio during the interview

Qualified applicants may send/e-mail their resumé with 2x2 photo & TOR or apply personally at:

CINDERELLA MARKETING CORPORATION
#825 EDSA, Quezon City
E-mail: cndrela_hrd@yahoo.com

REQUIRED
Contact Lens Professional

For a well-established group of companies based in the Middle-East distributing premium range of optical products, contact lenses & lens care solutions.

Candidates must possess the following:

- Optometrist with at least 3-5 years experience in contact lens practice
- Good understanding of Business procedures and marketing of contact lenses
- Excellent communication & presentation skills in english
- Willing to work in a very professional & competitive work environment, which will also involve extensive travel
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Office, Excel, Word & Power Point will be an added advantage

The Position is based in Kuwait with good growth prospects and an

Interested candidates may send their CV to:
The General Manager

JOB OPENING
for
TEACHERS/GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

1. B.S. Elementary Education(major in Home Economics)
2. AB/BSE/BSEED major in Arts
3. MA Guidance/Counseling graduate
4. Volleyball Coach

Applicants must be of good Christian Moral Character.

Send complete resumé and Transcript of Records to:

Jubilee Christian Academy
Doña Hemady Ave. cor. 4th St.
New Manila, Quezon City

Are you up for the challenge?

Global Sources (Nasdaq: GSOL) creates and facilitates global trade between buyers and suppliers, by providing the right information, at the right time, in the right format. Our integrated sourcing and marketing solutions enable importers to buy, and exporters to sell, more effectively and profitably.

Our winning team of 1,800 people worldwide is skilled, tech-savvy and thrives in a dynamic, cross-cultural environment. If this sounds like you, then we are currently looking for:

Assistant Editor

The Assistant Editor will be part of the Global Sources Online/Electronic Components editorial team and handling technical editorial operations, coordinating with electronics design industry, and ensuring optimum content quality for the trade magazine.

The successful candidate must have excellent English language skills with professional-level business writing expertise. You are required to have a degree in Electronics or Communications Engineering with at least 5 years of editorial experience in technology/trade publications. You must have demonstrable technical knowledge of electronics and a keen interest in technology and market trends. Experience in technical writing, news writing and special features can be an advantage.

You must have the ability to manage a team, meet tight deadlines, and have strong attention to detail.

A competitive remuneration package, business travel opportunities and a truly challenging, international and dynamic work environment awaits the right candidate. Interested individuals should send their resume and contact details to any of the following:

Corporate Human Resources
Online: career.globalsources.com
Email: gshr@globalsources.com
Fax: (632) 892 4087
Post: P.O. Box 457, MCPO, Makati City

global sources
www.globalsources.com

ACCOUNTANT

- Accounting graduate with good scholastic records
- Must be proficient in both oral and written communication skills
- Must be computer literate
- Preferably with banking audit experience

Please send your resume with photo to:
P.O. Box [illegible]
or fax to
(02) 726-7216

WANTED

SALES PERSONNEL
MANAGEMENT TRAINEES
RESTAURANT MANAGERS
HUMAN RESOURCE ASSOCIATE

- College graduates
- 21-35 years old

Apply in person from 10-6 p.m.
96 Timog Avenue, Q.C.
(behind Quattro restaurant)
928-1692 or 81

Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN
Agham Road, Diliman, Quezon City

BULLETIN OF VACANT POSITIONS

In compliance with RA 7041

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL PROSECUTOR

Special Prosecution Officer III - Item Nos. SPPO3-11-2003, SPPO3-12-2003, SPPO3-3-2003, SPPO3-13-2003, SPPO3-14-2003, SPPO3-1-2003, SPPO3-15-2003, SPPO3-16-2003, SPPO3-2-2003, SPPO3-4-2003, SPPO3-5-2003, SPPO3-6-2003, SPPO3-7-2003, SPPO3-8-2003 and SPPO3-9-2003; SG-28; Education: Bachelor of Laws; Experience: 5 years of experience in the practice of law, counseling, investigation/prosecution of cases, hearings of administrative/criminal cases, legal research or other related work; Training: 24 hours of relevant training; Eligibility: RA 1080 (BAR).

Special Prosecution Officer II - Item Nos. SPPO2-1-2003, SPPO2-2-2003, SPPO2-3-2003, SPPO2-4-2003 and SPPO2-5-2003; SG-27; Education: Bachelor of Laws; Experience: 4 years of experience in the practice of law, counseling/investigation/ prosecution of cases, hearings of administrative/criminal cases, legal research or other related work; Training: 24 hours of relevant training; Eligibility: RA 1080 (BAR).

Special Prosecution Officer I - Item Nos. SPPO1-6-2003, SPPO1-7-2003, SPPO1-4-2003, SPPO1-3-2003, SPPO1-5-2003, SPPO1-11-2003 and SPPO1-1-2003; SG-26; Education: Bachelor of Laws; Experience: 3 years of experience in the practice of law, counseling, investigation/prosecution of cases, hearings of administrative/ criminal cases, legal research or other related work; Training: 24 hours of relevant training; Eligibility: RA 1080 (BAR).

PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION ADMIN. ADJUDICATION & MONITORING OFFICE - Administrative Support Unit

Graft Investigation Officer III - Item No. GIO3-8-2003; SG-28; Education: Bachelor of Laws; Experience: 5 years of experience in the practice of law, counseling, investigation/prosecution of cases, hearings of administrative/criminal cases, legal research or other related work; Training: 24 hours of relevant training; Eligibility: RA 1080 (BAR).

FACT-FINDING AND INTELLIGENCE BUREAU

Graft Investigation Officer II - Item Nos. GIO2-37-2003, GIO2-38-2003 and GIO2-39-2003; SG-27; Education: Bachelor of Laws; Experience: 4 years of experience in the practice of law, counseling, investigation/prosecution of cases, hearings of administrative/criminal cases, legal research or other related work; Training: 24 hours of relevant training; Eligibility: RA 1080 (BAR).

Graft Investigation Officer I - Item Nos. GIO1-34-2003, GIO1-35-2003 and GIO1-36-2003; SG-26; Education: 3 years of experience in the practice of law, counseling, investigation/prosecution of cases, hearings of administrative/criminal cases, legal research or other related work; Training: 24 hours of relevant training; Eligibility: RA 1080 (BAR).

Associate Graft Investigation Officer III - Item Nos. AGIO3-1-2003, AGIO3-2-2003, AGIO3-3-2003 and AGIO3-4-2003; SG-22; Education: Bachelor of Laws; Experience: 1 year of experience in conducting community work, system studies/analyses, counseling investigation or other related work; Training: 16 hours of relevant training; Eligibility: RA 1080 (BAR) OR Education: Bachelor's degree relevant to the job; Experience: 2 years of experience in conducting community work, system studies/ analyses, counseling, investigation or other related work; Training: 16 hours of relevant training; Eligibility: Career Service (Prof.) Relevant Eligibility for Second Level Position.

PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE ADJUDICATION BUREAU B (PIAB B)

Associate Graft Investigation Officer I - Item No. OMBA-AGIO1-7-1998; SG-15; Education: Bachelor of Laws; or Bachelor's degree relevant to the job; Experience: None required; or six (6) months of experience in conducting community work, system studies/analyses, counseling, investigation or other related work; Training: None required; Eligibility: RA 1080 (BAR) or Career Service (Prof.).

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BUREAU

Computer Operator II - Item No. OMBA-COMPO2-1-1998; SG-9; Education: Completion of two years studies in college or high school graduate with relevant vocational/trade course; Experience: 1 year of relevant experience; 4 hours of relevant training; Eligibility: Career Service (Subprofessional) Data Encoder (MC 11,s. 96-Cat. I) First Level Eligibility.

PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION ADMIN. ADJUDICATION & MONITORING OFFICE

Data Entry Machine Operator II - Item No. OMBA-DAMO2-1-1998; SG-8; Education Completion of two years studies in college or high school graduate with relevant vocational/trade course; Experience: 1 year of relevant experience; Training: 4 hours of relevant training; Eligibility: Career Service (Subprofessional) Data Encoder (MC 11,s. 96-Cat. I) First Level Eligibility.

Interested applicants should submit to the Human Resource Management Division at the above address on or before August 8, 2003 the following: 1) an application letter stating the position/item applied for; 2) duly accomplished Personal Data Sheet (CSC Form 212); 3) 1"x1" colored picture; 4) CSC Certificate of Eligibility; 5) Transcript of Records; 6) Certificate of Seminar/Training attended (CSC accredited) and 7) Certification from previous/present employment stating the position, actual duties and responsibilities.

Save the Children Federation, Inc

Save the Children Federation, Inc. is a US-based non-profit organization working in over forty countries world wide, implementing community development projects that help children in need. Save the Children is searching for qualified candidates for:

TECHNICAL COORDINATOR FOR ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Reporting directly to Metro Manila Program Manager, the Technical Coordinator for Elementary Education will be primarily responsible for overall coordination of the elementary education efforts of Metro Manila Program Office. He/she will provide technical inputs in existing program areas and lead in the implementation of programs/projects under the Education Sub Sector. He/she shall also serve as a liason for Elementary Education initiatives between Save the Children-Metro Manila office and its partner agencies. He/she is also responsible in providing assistance for the development of innovative program/project concepts in pursuit of possible funding opportunities for the program together with Sectoral Program Initiative Team (SPRINT)

Key responsibilities:
The Technical Coordinator for Elementary Education shall (a) conceptualize, plan and implement projects that supports the accomplishment of Elementary Education program objectives of Save the Children - Metro Manila Office; (b) mobilize Metro Manila Program's target communities in support of elementary education related initiatives; (c) lead in monitoring, evaluating and documenting outcomes of program interventions, including their impact on women and children; (d) provide technical inputs for general programming and decision making related to elementary education program; (e) maintain close coordination with Program Coordinators in field operation particularly in ensuring strong community participation and network support for elementary education; (f) serve as technical resource person for capacity and skills training of POs, partner groups and other organizations in advancing quality programming related to Elementary Education (g) prepare and submit project and management operating plans and budgets; (h) prepare and submit promptly monthly status report of program accomplishments.

Requirements:
The position requires strong leadership and management skills; Previous work experience in a similar position in an international NGO highly preferred; Bachelor's degree in Education, Social Work or related social science discipline required; Minimum of five years experience in implementing programs with strong education development component. Demonstrated training and documentation skills. Fluency in English required. Computer literacy a must. Professional experience in an urban program work a plus.

Qualified applicants may send their resumes on or before July 31, 2003 to : *By mail* - CODE: MMP TCEE, Save the Children Federation, Inc., No.1 Encarnacion Street corner Lapu-Lapu Avenue, Magallanes Village, Makati City, Metro Manila. *By fax*: (632) 853-02-15. *By e-mail*: dghudier@savechildren.org (please indicate code "MMP TCEE" in subject line).

Save the Children Federation, Inc

Save the Children Federation, Inc. is a US-based non-profit organization working in over forty countries world wide, implementing community development projects that help children in need. Save the Children is searching for qualified candidates for:

PROGRAM TEAM LEADER

Reporting directly to Metro Manila Program Manager, the Program Team Leader is responsible for overall coordination and integration of area level operations in meeting performance targets as specified in annual program operational plan. He/She will supervise Metro Manila Program Coordinators and shall ensure the quality and efficient delivery of programs/projects in support of PhFO's Country Results Framework. This will include developing mechanisms for sustaining these initiatives. He/she shall also be responsible for all vital documentations that will improve stakeholders understanding and appreciation of Metro Manila Urban Program.

Key responsibilities:
The Program Team Leader shall (a) supervise Program Coordinators in setting clear targets and in overseeing their day to day work (b) maintain close working relationships with technical coordinators and ensure teamwork and support in delivering sub sector initiatives; (c) recommend and direct training for continuing education/ skills enhancement of Program Coordinators in upholding high quality and professional Save the Children staff ; (d) assist the Program Manager in institutionalizing and maintaining an effective and efficient Monitoring and Evaluation System (e) document key program experiences as well as produce periodic accomplishment reports such as quarterly, midyear and annual reports.

Requirements:
The position requires strong leadership and management skills; Previous work experience in a similar position in an international NGO highly preferred; Bachelor's degree in Social Work or related social science discipline required; Minimum of five years program development experience. Demonstrated training and documentation skills. Fluency in English required. Computer literacy a must. Professional experience in an urban program work a plus.

Qualified applicants may send their resumes on or before July 31, 2003 to : *By mail* - CODE: MMP PTL, Save the Children Federation, Inc., No.1 Encarnacion Street corner Lapu-Lapu Avenue, Magallanes Village, Makati City, Metro Manila. *By fax*: (632) 853-02-15. *By e-mail*: dghudier@savechildren.org (please indicate code "MMP PTL" in subject line).

A fast growing international agrochemical company is looking for a young, efficient

SECRETARY / OPERATIONS ASSISTANT

- Female, single, below 26 yrs. old.
- Computer literate – preferably knowledgeable in Microsoft Office.
- Familiar in the use of Microsoft Outlook & Internet Explorer.
- With at least 1-2 years experience as secretary. Exposure in operations, logistics & other support functions are added qualifications.
- Good communication skills in English (oral and written).

**NOTE – Previous applicants need not apply.*

Interested applicants may please forward their resumé, "2x2" picture and other credentials including salary history to:

BIOSTADT AGRISCIENCES, INC.
307 Grace Bldg., Ortigas Avenue
Greenhills, San Juan 1500, Metro Manila
Tel #: 723-1238; 723-3482 Fax #: 723-1237
E: mail : biostadt@mozcom.com

A US software development firm providing solutions and services to over 125 Global 2000 companies, with a representative office in Makati, is in need of:

Data Auditors

To be part of the team, you must:
1. be proficient in the English language (grammatically and verbally);
2. have keen comprehension;
3. be a team player
4. be a graduate of a reputable university;
5. have experience in editing and auditing work; and
6. be preferably paralegals or data abstractors.

The job entails supporting lead auditors in meeting daily production quota; abstracting, editing and auditing legal contracts processed by our local database centers; and willingness to work on a per record and contractor basis.

Hand deliver your resumé to: Unit 801, Liberty Center, 104 H.V. Dela Costa St., Salcedo Village, Makati City (c/o Trell, Tel. No.: 884-6030 or 6700-6030) or send an e-mail to: Careers@Accruent.com.

Bank of Commerce

is searching for
Officers and Staff for its existing vacancies in Head Office and Branches nationwide, and soon to be opened branches in Metro Manila and Luzon (Cavite, Baguio City, Subic)

OFFICER REQUIREMENTS

HEAD OFFICE :

- **Account/Marketing Officers*** for Treasury & Private Banking
  Responsible for developing new accounts, handling of continuous marketing of Treasury & Private Banking services to achieve respective revenue / volume objectives and grow client contact base.
- **Account Officers*** for Corporate Banking
  Responsible for managing small and medium-sized enterprises to achieve pre-determined loan portfolio, and for managing the credit relationship to achieve portfolio quality and profit objectives.
- **Department Head** for Internal Audit
  Responsible for the planning, organizing, directing, coordinating and controlling of all audit activities covering Branches and Head Office units in accordance with established systems and procedures, internal control policies, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) and other government regulations.

BRANCHES :

- **Business Managers (Branch Managers)***
  Responsible for the management of the Branch's profitability, sales and service, budgets, personnel and work flow requirements aimed at developing quality and lasting business activities which meet goals and institutional profit objectives.
- **Associate Business Managers for Marketing (Branch Marketing Officers)***
  Responsible for developing and adapting the Branch's marketing strategies to broaden its sales potential, maximize profitability, service efficiency, and operations excellence in coordination with the Branch Manager.
- **Associate Business Managers for Service (Branch Operations Officers)**
  Responsible for ensuring that the overall operations of the branch is conducted in accordance with established systems and procedures, internal control policies, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) and other government regulations.

STAFF REQUIREMENTS

HEAD OFFICE :

- **Marketing Assistants***
  Actively participate in the marketing activities of the unit towards the attainment of its targets in coordination with the Account / Marketing Officer.
- **Secretaries**
  Responsible for performing secretarial functions to achieve the group's established targets and objectives.
- **Systems Analysts for Systems and Procedures**
  Responsible for the documentation of manual systems and procedures. Preferably an Industrial Engineering graduate
- **Audit Examiners**
  Responsible for assisting in the examination and evaluation of the Bank's internal control system and the quality of performance in carrying out assigned responsibilities. Preferably an Accounting graduate and a CPA
- **Operations Staff for:**
  Credit Card Unit
  Disbursement Services Unit
  General Services
  ATM Monitoring Unit

BRANCHES :

- **Business Marketing Assistants (Branch Marketing Assistants)***
  Actively participates in the marketing activities of the Branch towards the attainment of the Branch targets in coordination with the Branch Manager and the Branch Marketing Officer
- **Client Relations Assistants (Tellers, New Accounts Clerks, General Accounts Bookkeepers, Operations Assistants)***
  Responsible for effectively servicing account openings, for the accurate and efficient handling of receipts and disbursement of funds (deposit & withdrawals) and other miscellaneous transactions, and creating a positive image for the Bank.

All applicants should have above average scholastic records, good communication skills and pleasing personality. For officer positions, at least two (2) years relevant experience is required. Ability to speak in Chinese & having a ready network that may be tapped as client base for *marketing positions is an advantage.

Interested parties may send their **letter of application together with a comprehensive resumé with 2x2 picture and transcript of records to:**

HRMDG – Recruitment & Placement Section
14/F, Philippine First Building
6764 Ayala Avenue, Makati City

Your ***letter of application*** *may also be sent to:*
raaumentado@bankcom.com.ph
For more information about us, you may visit our website: **www.bankcom.com.ph**

We will respond only to those who are qualified

WWF

WWF, one of the world's leading independent conservation organisations, with a global network active in 100 countries is in need of the following project personnel for the:

Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park Conservation and Development Project (NSMNPCDP - Phase 2), a project funded by the Royal Netherlands Embassy

PROJECT MANAGER. He/she shall be responsible for the overall management of the project including the mobilization of all project inputs, supervision over project staff, consultants and contractors. The Manager is also responsible for meeting project obligations under the project. The Manager shall perform a liaison role with the DENR-PASU, other national government agencies, LGUs, NGOs/POs, academic and research institutions and project partners.

Qualification Requirements: Postgraduate degree in natural resources management or related discipline with at least 10 years professional experience; Knowledge and experience on the implementation of PA Management and the NIPAS Law and other relevant laws; Excellent track record and experience in project management, coordination and preferably of conservation/natural resource management projects; Must have the ability to effectively work in high - calibre cross-functional team and coordinate a large, multi-stakeholder Project; Excellent communication skills both English and Pilipino, knowledge of local dialect is desirable; Must be willing to work and stay in the project site and /or field stations (Palanan, San Mariano, Dinapigue, Maconacon-Divilacan).

Interested parties are advised to submit their curriculum vitae with latest 2x2 photo and other pertinent documents to:

HRD Manager
KABANG KALIKASAN NG PILIPINAS
LBI Bldg., 57 Kalayaan Ave., Diliman, Quezon City 1101

Deadline for submission is on July 25, 2003. We will respond to qualified candidates only.

SCOPRO OPTICAL CO., INC.

SCOPRO OPTICAL CO., INC., manufacturer / exporter of sport optics is in need of:

P.E.D. (Process Engineering) Staff

Qualifications:
- Male, Single, not over 28 years old
- Mechanical Engineering graduate
- Has knowledge in AUTO CAD
- Willing to undergo training

Apply personally and submit comprehensive resumé with recent ID Picture at:

HUMAN RESOURCES SECTION
SCOPRO OPTICAL CO., INC.
Bonecraft Building, Mayon corner Pinatubo Streets
Mandaluyong City Tel #533-8171

A well-established Lighting and Electrical Devices distributor is in need of:

Electrical Engineer

Applicant must be a licensed Electrical Engineer, below 30 years of age, with working experience in related field, knowledge in Lighting & Electrical devices preferred, computer literate, with good moral character & excellent communication skills. Interested parties may call Tel: 243-8250 to 53 and look for Ms. Jennifer for appointment.

THE WORLD BANK

World Bank Office Manila

REQUIRES A

TEAM ASSISTANT

The World Bank Office, Manila (WBOM) has a vacancy for a **Team Assistant** to provide efficient and high quality operational, secretarial and administrative support to the Operations Country Services – Portfolio-Management and Quality (OCS-PMQ) Team. This position will be for a two-year term appointment, subject to one-year probationary period, with possibility of renewal. The successful candidate will provide comprehensive and proactive support to the Manager, OCS and two Operations Officers (OOs) in their portfolio management and quality assurance functions, particularly in the monitoring of both the loans and trust funds (TF) portfolio.

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Maintain accurate and up to date portfolio data; Assist in preparing portfolio management reports, including collecting data, preparing tables/graphs, and conducting simple spreadsheet analysis; Assist in preparing necessary documents, including presentation materials, for portfolio and quality related meetings and trainings; Perform quality control by ensuring documents adhere to Bank guidelines, clearance requirements and processing procedures; Provide research support to the team, including the search,and retrieval of information from the internet and other sources; Provide support in maintaining the portfolio related webpages in the WBOM External Website; Assist with follow-up on specific actions or information required; Maintain up to date contacts database; Assist in organizing meetings, including handling all administrative and logistical arrangements, preparing and assembling of meeting materials, coordinating with partners inside and outside the Bank, and preparing minutes, as necessary; Draft responses to routine correspondence; Maintain records and filing systems for the team.

Selection Criteria:

- College graduate, preferably with major in Accounting, Finance, Business Administration or Management; minimum five (5) years of relevant experience.
- Excellent organization, research/analytical and presentation skills.
- Strong interpersonal skills and ability to liaise effectively and professionally with a wide range of clients (internal and external).
- High degree of initiative, flexibility, attention to details and resourcefulness with a drive for efficiency and results.
- Ability to work capably under stress and to juggle multiple tasks within tight deadlines.
- Highly proficient in computer software applications (Excel, Powerpoint, Word, Microsoft Project, database program) and adept in using the Internet/Intranet. Experience with SAP and Lotus Notes will be an advantage as well as familiarity with web administration.
- Strong written and oral communication skills.

The World Bank offers a competitive compensation package based on the local market, and attractive medical and pension plans. The salary will not be subject to income tax.

Please send your application letter, with comprehensive resume with details of your work experience, academic records, recent photo, references (at least three names with full contact details) not later than July 25, 2003 to:

KSEARCH ASIA CONSULTING INC

KSearch Asia Consulting, Inc., c/o Joel M. Yap at 22/F 139 Corporate Centre, 139 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City or email to jyap@ksearch.com.ph; fax to 893-6259.

MMPI

MEGA MAGAZINES & PUBLICATIONS, INC.

The country's premiere fashion and lifestyle publications group is in need of individuals to fill the following positions.

ADVERTISING SALES MANAGERS

- ✓ at least 24 years old
- ✓ with 3 years experience in sales; preferably from the advertising or publishing industry
- ✓ can lead, train, and motivate sales personnel
- ✓ has exceptional communication and interpersonal skills

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

- ✓ at least 24 years old
- ✓ with 2-3 years experience in editorial work
- ✓ has exceptional writing skills
- ✓ up to date on the latest male trends and interests

GRAPHIC ARTISTS

- ✓ male, not more than 30 years old
- ✓ with 2-3 years experience in final artwork & color separation
- ✓ proficient in Photoshop, Freehand & QuarkExpress
- ✓ must be willing to be assigned to night work duty

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER

- ✓ Graduate of AB/BS Psychology or Behavioral Science
- ✓ not more than 30 years old and with pleasing personality
- ✓ with extensive experience in recruitment & selection
- ✓ excellent organizational & communication skills
- ✓ has concrete background in training needs analysis, program development and facilitation

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

- ✓ graduate of Accounting
- ✓ female, not more than 27 years old
- ✓ with strong analytical ability and good report writing skills
- ✓ excellent oral and written communication skills

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

- ✓ female, not more than 30 years old
- ✓ preferably with experience in sales or marketing
- ✓ has exceptional communication and interpersonal skills
- ✓ must be creative, dynamic and can work under pressure

If you think you have what it takes, send in your resumé, transcript of records and a 2x2 picture to:

The Human Resources Manager
Mega Magazines and Publications, Inc.
18/F, Strata 100 Building, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig
or at P.O. Box 12762 Ortigas Center

CASCADE

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The *Caraballo and Southern Cordillera Agricultural Development Programme* is an integrated development project of the Department of Agriculture jointly funded by the Government of the Philippines and the European Union

GININTUANG MASAGANANG ANI

Invitation to Local Consultants to submit Letter of Interest

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING EXPERT

Interested consultants are invited to submit letter of interest for the Mechanical Engineering Support for Equipment Supply of CASCADE Programme covering the provinces of Nueva Vizcaya, Nueva Ecija and Benguet.

The consultant is expected to appraise condition of second-hand heavy equipment before procurement and provide technical expertise in the operation and maintenance of such equipment. Specifically, the consultant shall:

- Develop a selection and procurement criteria taking into consideration the recommendations of the International Rural Road Engineer
- Develop an outline for the procurement process, from tender to purchase order, taking into account the availability of the selected equipment
- Develop a user-friendly heavy equipment maintenance manual for distribution to concerned staff of municipalities provided with equipment
- Train LGUs on heavy equipment maintenance and operation

The consultant must be a licensed Mechanical Engineer, MS level is a plus; must have at least 10 years of continuous experience in management, operation and maintenance of at least 5 different types of heavy equipment for roadway construction; and, with background on computer systems/software operation, statistics and/or technical and economic analysis. Letters of interest should be submitted not later than 22 July 2003. Full terms of reference and letters of invitation to submit proposals will be issued to short listed candidates on or before 31 July 2003. The successful contractor will be required to provide four (4) months of consultancy services to undertake aforementioned activities. For inquiries, contact:

The Project Co-Directors
DA-CASCADE
Bonfal West, 3700 Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya
Tel. No. (078)321-2605 & 321-4128
Telefax No. (078) 805-3611
E-mail: cascade_erp@yahoo.co.uk

INFORMATICS COMPUTER INSTITUTE

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Join the Global Leader in IT Training and Education

We are an IT company composed of young IT professionals who are success-driven and result-oriented. INFORMATICS, the WORLD'S LARGEST NETWORK OF COMPUTER TRAINING INSTITUTE, invites aggressive and self-driven individuals to be part of its training and education centers in the Philippines and in the Asia Pacific region. COMPETITIVE BENEFITS PACKAGE, PROGRESSIVE SALARY INCREASE, EXTENSIVE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES, FAST PROMOTION and POSSIBLE INTERNATIONAL ASSIGNMENT await successful candidates.

DEAN for Informatics Colleges

- 35 to 45 years old
- Master's degree required, preferably in IT, with PhD units
- With proven record of service, at least 5 years, as Department Head or Faculty Administrator of a college
- With full-time classroom teaching experience
- With strong management and leadership skills
- With effective interpersonal and communication skills

BUSINESS UNIT HEAD (Computer Assisted Learning)

- 35 to 45 years old
- Master's degree in Education required
- Administrative and business management experience in a school setting an advantage
- With knowledge of current trends in IT
- With effective interpersonal and communication skills

INTERNAL AUDITOR

- CPA
- At least 1 year experience in audit work

FRANCHISE MANAGERS/ SALES EXECUTIVES

- Bachelor's Degree Holder
- Master's degree is an advantage
- Competitive with ability, drive and desire to deliver outstanding results from both a revenue and profitability perspective
- Intellectually creative
- With a proven ability to motivate and develop a cohesive, team-oriented sales and marketing group
- With strong management and leadership skills
- Result-oriented
- With strong interpersonal skills
- With strong business sense and maturity; entrepreneurial, maximizes the use of relatively limited resources by utilizing creativity, ingenuity and hands-on implementation
- With effective communication skills, both oral and written
- Customer-focused
- With an up-to-date knowledge of current trends and emerging marketing initiatives

ACCOUNTANTS

- Accounting graduate
- CPA is an advantage

ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR

- Accounting graduate
- CPA is an advantage
- At least 1 year experience in accounting work

Send your resume together with 2x2 picture and Transcript of Records to 2/F Security Land Bldg. [illegible] Herrera cor Ayala Ave. Makati • Telefax: [illegible] E-mail: [illegible]

PHILIPPINES SINGAPORE BAHRAIN BANGLADESH BRAZIL BRUNEI CAMBODIA CHINA HONGKONG INDIA INDONESIA OMAN NEPAL NIGERIA MACAU MALAYSIA MAURITIUS MYANMAR PAKISTAN ROMANIA SAUDI ARABIA SRI LANKA SOUTH AFRICA SOUTH KOREA SWEDEN TAIWAN THAILAND UNITED KINGDOM VIETNAM ZIMBABWE

Our company is one of the top Exporters/Manufacturers of Christmas decorations and novelties. We have an immediate opening for an.........

Artist/Designer

- ➢ Male or female
- ➢ Graduate of fine arts, architecture or any related course
- ➢ Hard worker and results oriented
- ➢ Salary open

Send resumé to:

#1 Cheza cor Gertrudes Sts., Mambugan, Antipolo City
Philippines 1870 or E-mail to: stem22@skyinet.net

One Financial Group

is looking for

Sales Professionals

A Sales Adviser from One Financial Group typically has a strong sales background, preferably in insurance, real estate or equities. This person has excellent interpersonal skills and entrepreneurial drive, is intelligent, aggressive, persistent and determined, and works well both independently and as part of a team. A Sales Manager has all of the above in addition to significant experience managing a sales team, also preferably in insurance, real estate or equities.

One Financial Group

We are a financial services provider carrying a full range of investment, insurance and real estate products, and provide needs-based solutions for both Corporate and Personal Clients.

A career with us is based on continuous learning with an emphasis on rigorous training.
Up to the challenge?
Please send, e-mail or fax your resumé or c.v. to:

e-mail: careers@one.com.ph
phone: (63) 2 759-4210
fax: (63) 2 759-4211
address: Suite 912-914, Tower I & Exchange Plaza, Ayala Triangle, Makati City

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Qinteraction

Quality Interaction

Qinteraction is a professionally managed merchant call center company that services both Philippine and international customers.

We are urgently looking for driven, focused and customer-oriented individuals to fill in employment vacancies in the company.

We are committed to provide successful applicants with the highest level of training, a rewarding compensation scheme and an opportunity to be part of a unique experience in one of the best call centers in the country.

TELEMARKETERS

The **Telemarketer** must have good voice quality, can project effectively and enthusiastically over the telephone and easily connect with his customers. A person who can readily influence others given very short talk-time will be perfect for this position. The applicant must be fluent in conversational American English.

The applicant must be willing to work on shifts. Prior telemarketing or sales experience is not necessary but will be an advantage.

TEAM LEADERS

The **Team Leader's** primary goal is to effectively lead the team towards the achievement of productivity, customer service and quality objectives. The work involves overseeing call handling, call accuracy and effective closing of transactions.

The applicant must have at least one year related work experience from a call center environment, with strong leadership qualities, effective motivational and people-handling skills and must be willing to work on shifts.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES (CSRs)

The **Customer Service Representative** is responsible for providing a variety of call center services to inbound and outbound customers. The ideal applicant must be fluent in conversational American English. We are also looking for CSRs who can either:

- Speak fluent Spanish
- Speak with a British accent

These are urgent requirements. Please e-mail, hand-carry or send applications to:

QINTERACTION PHILIPPINES, INC.
Human Resources
8th Floor, BPI Buendia Center
Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue
Makati City, Philippines 1200
E-mail Address: HR@Qinteraction.com

All applications will be treated in strict confidence.

REDISOL, INC.

THE BRAND LEADER IN INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE CHEMICALS NEEDS

(20) ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

FEMALE, coll. grad. Exp. in sales pref but not required. Pleasing personality, aggressive.

(6) TECHNICAL SERVICE ENGINEERS

Engr grad. Exp in Mechanical Seals, Packings & Gasket installation/services.

(6) WATER TREATMENT ENGINEERS

Exp. in chem treatment of cooling tower, boilers, condensers & chillers. Chem. Engr - 3 yrs. exp with driver's license.

P30,000.00 or more in cumulative income. Daily allowance, commission, bonus, car plan & other benefits.

Please come in proper attire with resumé & recent 2x2 photo. REDISOL, INC. #49 Kanlaon St., Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City.
Trunkline: 742-7208

HANJO CORPORATION

A company engaged in distribution of computer accessories, offers career opportunities to all service oriented individuals for its continuous expansion program.

SALES EXECUTIVE

- Female, 22-28 years old, graduate of marketing/business
- Excellent oral communication skills
- Possess highly pleasing personality
- At least 1 year experience in sales

Applicants should apply personally with comprehensive resumé, 2x2 picture & transcript of records at:

#158 8th St. bet. 11th & 12th Avenue, Grace Park, Caloocan City Fax No. 364-3363

DUALTECH CENTER

is in need of:

Electronics, Electrical & Mechanical Instructors

- Preferably E.C.E./Electrical/Mechanical Engineer
- 5 years teaching experience
- Male

Admin. Clerk

- College Graduate
- 5 years office work experience
- Computer literate
- Male

Please send your resumé via email at dualtech@philwebinc.com

EARN MONEY

IN A BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY!

Our company belongs to the fastest growing industry today. It has recently embarked on an aggressive recruitment campaign and will assign qualified applicants to various positions within our organization

FRESH GRADUATES ARE WELCOME TO APPLY!

Interested applicants may apply personally from Monday to Wednesday. Please come in business attire and bring your comprehensive resumé, original copies of credentials and 2"x2" ID Photo to:

15th Floor The World Centre,
330 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue,
Makati City, Look for Richard

For provincial applicants.
2nd Floor Central Plaza I Bldg
JP Laurel Avenue, Davao City

Variable sources of income include commission, bonuses on good performances, transportation and representation allowances

WE ARE EXPANDING

JOIN US FOR A GREAT FUTURE

ambergris solutions, a leading, Philippine-based provider of offshore customer care solutions to blue-chip US-based clients is looking for team players with :

- superior communication skills, impeccable English
- willingness to work the night shift

IT Manager
- ✓ a college degree in Computer Science/IT/MIS from a top-tier school
- ✓ has experience working with AVAYA, BLUE PUMPKIN

IT Project Manager
- ✓ a college degree in Computer Science/IT/MIS from a top-tier school
- ✓ has experience working with AVAYA, BLUE PUMPKIN
- ✓ strong and proven management experience

Director of Workforce Management
- ✓ strong grasp of workforce management methodology
- ✓ previous call center scheduling, capacity planning and MIS reporting experience is a must
- ✓ has experience working with AVAYA, BLUE PUMPKIN

Director of Operations
- ✓ at least (4) years experience in call center or hotel industry preferred

Operations Manager
- ✓ at least (4) years experience in call center or hotel industry preferred
- ✓ ability to analyze ACD/MIS reports to identify opportunities for strategic improvement

Corporate Staffing Manager
- ✓ led a staffing group of recruiters
- ✓ proven experience with executive search firm and/or human resources as staffing manager

Recruitment Officer
- ✓ managed a group of recruiters
- ✓ proven experience with executive search firm and/or human resources as recruitment officer

COME AND JOIN OUR COMPANY JOB FAIR!
JULY 14-18, 2003 and JULY 21-25, 2003 at 10am-10pm
for the following positions:

Walk ins are highly encouraged, be ready for immediate interview.

100	Inbound Sales Associates	50	Outbound Sales Associates
200	Customer Service Associates	30	Team Captains

customer service, Sales orientation
willingness to work the night shift

At ambergris solutions our employee-partners are committed to transforming the world of customer care. Come join the revolution!

31/F Discovery Centre, 25 ADB [illegible] Ortigas Center, Pasig City

ambergris [illegible]

We need highly competent and result oriented individuals to be part of the expansion program of a fast growing distribution company of computer hardware, office furniture/partitions and appliance for domestic market.

- ☐ Male/Female; 24-36 years of age
- ☐ Excellent oral & written communication skills; computer literate for presentation of reports
- ☐ Aggressive, resourceful, self starter, with pleasing personality
- ☐ Result driven, willing to do field work & can work long hours under pressure

MARKETING ASSISTANT (Code: MA)

- ☐ Graduate of marketing course or minimum of 2 years experience in marketing & project management
- ☐ Should have knowledge in organizing events, promotions & advertising from conceptualization to implementation
- ☐ Creative & highly organized and a team member

AREA SALES SUPERVISOR (Code: AS)

- ☐ Graduate of Marketing course or minimum of 2 years experience in selling computer, furniture or appliance
- ☐ Will be assigned to different areas (GMA, North & South Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao)
- ☐ Responsibility entails product distribution and collection efficiency and achieve sales target in assigned areas

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE/ DEALER SALES COORDINATOR (Code: DSC)

- ☐ Graduate of management/marketing course or minimum of 2 years experience in selling computer or furniture or appliances
- ☐ Will solicit account & provide marketing support in order to develop business
- ☐ Will develop & influence marketing/sales strategies & product management program

DESIGNER SALES EXECUTIVE (Code: ID)

- ☐ Degree in interior design & possesses selling abilities
- ☐ Computer literate - MS Office/AutoCad
- ☐ Willing to do field work with excellent communication skills

ACCOUNTING STAFF (ACCTG)

- ☐ Graduate of Accounting major from reputable school and/or experience in General Accounting
- ☐ Capable of handling multiple task, with passion for excellence

CREATIVE LAYOUT ARTIST (Code: LA)

- ☐ Graduate of Fine Arts (Major in Advertising)
- ☐ With at least 1 year of computer work experience on PC Graphic Softwares like CorelDraw, Photoshop and the likes
- ☐ Must be creative and can work with minimum supervision

Send application letter, resumé with 2x2 picture, transcript of records to:

HR Department
464 Lt. Artiaga St., San Juan, Metro Manila 1600
Tel. Nos. 7238873/7238876
E-mail: **julietdy@nsclub.net**

Supermart Alabang

— IS IN NEED OF —

CASHIERS

- Female, 18-25 years old, Minimum height 5'2", Single
- College graduate or at least in 2nd year college level. Good in Arithmetic

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:
- Honest & trustworthy, NBI clearance, ID photo
- Good health & morals, personable, English speaking, disciplined, willing to work long hours
- Bring accountability (Honorable release & clearance certificate form from last employer)
- Living in Muntinlupa, Las Piñas, Parañaque, Laguna preferred

APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO APPLY PERSONALLY WITH YOUR BIO-DATA, SSS & PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE AT OUR PERSONNEL OFFICE AT GATE NO. 3 THRU RECEIVING GATE AT THEATER DRIVE.

Contact: Ana Queñano/Jasmin Borais

ALABANG SUPERMARKET CORPORATION
Theater Drive corner Commerce Ave., Alabang Town Center
Alabang, Muntinlupa City
Tel. No. 807-2209

SUPERMARKET

PROJECT ENGINEER & ESTIMATOR

- Registered Civil Eng'r; With 5 years exp. (actual project); Manage/Supervise/Handle Project; Interpret contract, plan, spec.; Estimate and do structural drafting; Willing to be assigned @ jobsite

Far East Fabrication
292 E. Miranda St.,
Paso de Blas,
Valenzuela City

Call Tel. 292-5922; 292-3605

"BODYGUARDS"

PART-TIME

Call: (035) 226-1080
Mike Thorn

A major retail player in Pampanga is currently in the process of revitalizing its operations and has openings for the following positions:

MANAGER FOR SUPERMARKET OPERATIONS

Male or Female
Not more than 40 years old
Degree holder and preferably with MBA
At least 5 years managerial experience in supermarket operations
With extensive background in merchandising, inventory management and the use of the POS system

RETAIL OUTLET SUPERVISORS

Male or Female
25-32 years old
Graduate of Business Administration or any related course
At least 3 years supervisory experience in supermarket operations
Computer literate and people oriented

MARKETING OFFICER

Male or Female
22-28 years old
Graduate of Marketing or Communications Arts
At least two years experience in a marketing, advertising or PR agencies
Computer literate, highly creative and can conceptualize outstanding programs for the company

MERCHANDISERS AND BUYERS

Male or Female
23-30 years old
College Graduate
At least five years experience as buyer/merchandiser in a supermarket or department store
Customer driven, has initiative, and a team player

Applicants must be willing to relocate to Angeles or Mabalacat, Pampanga. Mail your comprehensive resumé with 1x1 picture, salary history, and transcript of records to:

InAsia Management+Consultancy
Suite 239 Cityland Pioneer Condominium
Pioneer Street, Mandaluyong City

IMMEDIATE HIRING

COUNTER SALESMAN

- Single, 25-30 years old
- With knowledge in Car Aircon Parts
- Honest & Hardworking

AIRCON TECHNICIAN

- Single, Vocational Graduate
- Expert in Split & Packaged Type A/C

Please apply with bio-data with picture at:

GRAND AIRCONDITIONING INC.
1650 A. Francisco St.,
Santa Ana, Manila
Tel. No. 561-2078 / 562-2703

DIATECH SUCCESS GROUP, INC.

URGENTLY NEEDS

SALES ENGINEER & SALES CLERK

- **Male or female, 22 to 28 years old**
- **Initiative, willing to be trained**
- **Willing to work on field**
- **With or without experience**
- **Good in conversation**

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY APPLY AT:
190 General Luis St., Novaliches Q.C.
Tel. Nos.: 417-2194 • 936-5349

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TSPI DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

We are a Christian Microenterprise Development NGO committed to reduce poverty in the Philippines. In line with our expansion program, we are in need of dynamic men and women who share the same mission of Jesus Christ in delivering the poor out of poverty. We have urgent need for the following positions:

ADMINISTRATION SUPERVISOR

- Bachelor's Degree preferably in Civil/Electrical Engineering
- Male; Not more than 40 years old
- With at least 2 years in similar capacity particularly in construction, motorpool, housekeeping, purchasing, security & property management
- Must have a professional driver's license

SR. SYSTEMS ANALYST/PROGRAMMER

- Graduate of B.S. Computer Science or any related course
- With 2 years experience on systems development using DOS based programming, languages such as Visual basic 6.0, MS Access, SQL 7.0 & Crystal Report and Windows NT/95-00, PC Anywhere, Office 2000, MS Exchange, Frontpage and HTML
- Preferably w/ background in accounting gained from a bank or any financial institution

SR. SOCIAL & BUSINESS DEV'T. OFFICER

- Graduate of any Social Science course with MA/MBA units
- With at least 5 yrs. related experience, 2 yrs. of it is in supervisory position preferably gained from a bank, an Non-Government Organization & Insurance Company
- With proven skills in both oral & written communication
- Proficient in computer based statistical package

FINANCIAL ANALYSTS

- Graduate of BS Accountancy, CPA; Not more than 30 years old
- Preferably with 2 yrs. work experience in related field
- Analytical & Proficient in computer operations

TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS/CONTROL CLERK

- Graduate of any 4 year computer course (BS Computer Science, Information Technology, Computer Engineering or equivalent course)
- Not more than 30 yrs. old
- With working knowledge in MS Office applications; Pagemaker; PC Anywhere,; Windows 98/200/ME/XP
- With at least 1 yr. experience in programming, computer maintenance and/or troubleshooting
- With working knowledge on Foxpro, Dbase, Clipper, Visual Basic, and SQL 7.0

ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT

- Graduates of any four year business course; Not more than 35 years of age
- With at least 1 year experience in purchasing & canvassing, motorpool, maintenance, housekeeping & security services
- Proficient in computer operations

ACCOUNTING CLERKS

- Graduate of BS Accountancy; Not more than 30 years old
- Preferably with 1 year related work experience
- Proficient in computer operations

COMPUTER OPERATORS

- Graduate of any 4 year computer course with major concentration in electronics communications or computer technology
- Not more than 30 years old
- Working knowledge in MS office applications applications; Pagemaker, PC Anywhere, Windows 98/200/ME/XP
- With at least 1 yr. experience in computer operation, encoding or related field
- Familiarity w/ commercial telecommunications services; knowledge of voice and data communications systems

ACCOUNT OFFICERS

- Graduates of Accounting, Economics, Banking & Finance, or any four year business course; Not more than 30 years of age
- With good analytical skills and ability to relate well with the "masa"
- Likes to work in the field, particularly in poverty-stricken communities
- With good communication skills

Please send your resume to
TSPI Development Corporation, HR Department
# 2370 Antipolo St.,Guadalupe Nuevo, Makati City
or email (text format only-no attachments pls.) to xgpena@tspi.org or hrms@tspi.org
visit our website at www.tspi.org

Save the Children Federation, Inc

Save the Children Federation, Inc. is a US-based non-profit organization working in over forty countries world wide, implementing community development projects that help children in need. Save the Children is searching for qualified candidates for:

NATIONAL PROGRAM COORDINATOR FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Reporting directly to the Education Manager of the Philippines Field Office, the ECD Coordinator will be primarily responsible for overall coordination of the early childhood development efforts of the Philippines Field Office. He/she will provide technical inputs to the ECD Coordinators in existing program areas related to the implementation of programs/projects under Save the Children's Sectoral Prpgram Initiatives Team (SPRINT). He/she shall also serve as a liaison for ECD initiatives between Save the Children and its partner agencies. He/she may also be requested to provide technical assistance to these partner agencies. He/she shall also be responsible for providing assistance in resource generation for this sub-sector and for coordinating efforts in pursuing funding opportunities.

Key responsibilities:
The ECD Coordinator shall: (1) provide technical inputs for programming and decision-making related to early childhood development, (2) assist in preparing project proposals for submission either to funding agencies or to other Save the Children offices, and in developing/refining ECD strategies towards scaling up or institutionalization, (3) provide technical support to the ECD Coordinators in existing program areas, (4) prepare reports to funding agencies, home office, partner organizations and the Field Office Management, (5) Document experiences in sectoral programming for publication, technical presentation to local and international audience or for circulation among special groups.

The position will based in Iloilo City and will require periodic travel to Manila, another program area and where the country office is based. During these trips, the ECD Coordinator is expected to prepare detailed scopes of work, trip reports and similar documentation of activities undertaken in the field.

Requirements:
This is a senior position requiring strong leadership and management skills; Previous work experience in a similar position in an international NGO highly preferred; Bachelor's degree in the social sciences (psychology, education or social work) or related discipline required; Minimum of five years program development experience. Demonstrated training and research skills. Fluency in English required and knowledge of Hiligaynon an advantage. Computer literacy a must. Professional work experience in a multi-cultural work a plus.

Qualified applicants may send their resumes on or before July 25, 2003 to : *By mail* - CODE: ECD COORD, Save the Children Federation, Inc., No.1 Encarnacion Street corner Lapu-Lapu Avenue, Magallanes Village, Makati City, Metro Manila. *By fax:* (632) 853-02-15. *By e-mail:* ccruz@savechildren.org (please indicate code "ECD COORD" in subject line).

A rare opportunity for
MARKETING PROFESSIONALS

A company engaged in integrated Financial and Fund Management Services needs talented and motivated **Marketing Professionals** to support the Group's growth and expansion.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Develop and generates clients by offering investment/trust products to high private net worth individuals, corporations and institutional accounts. Plans and develops a marketing strategy to achieve a desired client base and to develop client information system that is effective, proactive and competitive in the marketplace.

Requirements:

1.) graduate of a four (4) year College course from a reputable university with background in marketing or sales.
2.) age 25 to 35 years old with a rank of Junior Officer either from the treasury, trust and customer relationship departments of financial institutions (from a bank, investment house and credit card company)
3.) has developed a client base through aggressive personal marketing and effective adaptation or customization of the basic sales presentation of the company's products.
4.) not afraid of hard work and able to work long hours to develop a client base; proficient in Tagalog, English or Chinese.

**** An exception would be:**

a.) an experienced pension fund/provident fund/cooperative fund managers with administrative skills
b.) a pharmaceutical sales person with extensive client base (especially high net worth doctors).

The company provides competitive compensation commensurate to the knowledge, skills and relevant experienced offered by the candidate. For confidential consideration send resumé to the office address below:

Mail to: P.O Box 13504
Ortigas Center Post Office
1605 Pasig City

E-mail: theadvertiser911@yahoo.com

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Electronics Development Department Manager

Code : MGR

Position Responsibilities:

- *This position also requires continuous entrepreneurial leadership to develop and champion department strategies to grow the business volume, assure customer satisfaction, continuous product and process improvements, and maximum development and utilization of people and assets. Interface with internal and external customers on major quality issues and requirements. Identify, develop, and lead intra-company relationships and inter-company teaming agreements. Manage the implementation and compliance to ISO 9001, Six Sigma principles and Quality metrics. Required to participate in design reviews, startup reviews, and perform process assessments, audits, and evaluations of products and process. Conduct performance evaluations and team member rankings. Provide overhead budget and salary planning inputs.*
- *Responsible for overseeing the requirements definition, design, development, prototyping, validation, and delivery support of automotive hardware and software products. You will interface with offshore engineering counterparts to insure that the products meet the specifications and are production ready; may interface with the end customer to insure that all technical specifications are understood; and will produce and maintain technical documentation pertinent to the project. Candidate will also function as senior staff member to mentor junior and mid level engineers in performing their respective activities. Project management experience is required.*
- *Participates in all phases of product development from proposals to final product delivery and support with specific responsibility for engineering phase of development projects as assigned.*

Desired Skills/Work Experience:

- With a Degree in B.S. Major(s): E.E. Comp. A Masters Degree is a strong plus.
- Typical Experience: 8-12 years on management level on electronic product design and development.
- Having experience with automotive application electronics development is a plus.
- Experience in one or more of the following areas: Automotive electronic modules, Embedded software.
- Excellent interpersonal skills. Excellent interfacing skills with internal and external customers and all management levels. Must be able to manage and complete multiple projects.

Required Skills/Experience/ Education:

- Experience in managing people and can participate on cross-functional teams with working knowledge of all critical business, design, manufacturing and engineering processes.
- Ability to mentor all functions and disciplines on the application of quality models to their processes.
- Superior organizational, problem-solving and communication skills will be expected.

Software Validation Engineers

Code : SWVal

- Graduate of EE/ ECE/ ComE/ Physics or any applied sciences course;
- With or without experience in software test and validation work;
- Possesses logical and analytical ability;
- Working knowledge in computer programming & applications;
- Above average scholastic record;
- Preferred:
  - ✓ experience in software testing and validation of automotive electronics;
  - ✓ working knowledge in Assembly, C/C++, Visual Basic/ C++ programming languages.

Software Development Engineers

Code : SWDev

- Graduate of EE/ ECE/ ComE or any applied sciences course
- Working knowledge of Embedded Systems Design;
- Possesses logical and analytical ability;
- Working knowledge in computer programming and applications;
- Above average scholastic record;
- Preferred:
  - ✓ experience in embedded electronic systems;
  - ✓ working knowledge in Assembly, C/C++, Visual Basic/ C++ programming languages.

Software Quality Assurance Engineers

Code : SQA

- Graduate of EE/ ECE/ ComE or any applied engineering and sciences course,
- Familiar with Software Quality Assurance work;
- Experience in Software Quality Assurance tools;
- Able to implement Software Quality Assurance Procedures & Standards;
- Above average scholastic record;

Hardware Design Engineers

Code : HWDev

- Graduate of ECE or its equivalent;
- Familiar with Electronic Circuit Design work,
- Experience in micro-controller design, circuit simulation and analysis;
- Above average scholastic record;
- Preferably with experience/knowledge in:
  - ✓ embedded electronic systems;
  - ✓ programming (Assembly C);
  - ✓ advanced technologies for automotive applications;

Lear Corporation, a Fortune 150 company headquartered in Southfield, Michigan, USA, focuses on integrating complete automotive interiors, including seat systems, interior trim and electrical systems. With annual net sales of $13.6 billion in 2001, Lear ranks as the world's largest automotive interior supplier and the world's fifth-largest automotive supplier. The company's world-class products are designed, engineered and manufactured by over 115,000 employees in more than 300 facilities located in 33 countries. Information about Lear and its products is available on the internet at www.lear.com.

Interested applicants may send their application letter, resume with 2x2 colored picture and transcript of records to or e-mail them at: romega@lear.com. For inquiries call at 340-7950.

The Human Resources Officer
Lear Automotive (EEDS) Philippines, Inc.
Philippine Engineering and Technology Center
MEZ II, Basak, Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu, Phils.

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Norwegian Mission Alliance
N M A
Philippines

The Norwegian Mission Alliance's diaconal mission expresses God's limitless love for the neglected, depressed and poor sector of society.

We are an International Christian organization presently sponsoring 11,000 children from the urban poor of Metro Manila, provinces of Bulacan, Rizal, Cavite, and Laguna.

... we Nurture children
... we Minister to family
... we Aflame people for His service,

We have 29 dedicated staff of Social Workers, Nurses, Nutritionists, Office staff and Missionaries from Norway working in teams to handle sponsorship programs in education, health and spiritual services.

We challenge more enthusiastic, creative, young, experienced people of Evangelical faith and with a heart for children to work with us.

Registered Social Workers

Registered Nurses

Secretary

- Good in oral and written communication
- Bachelors degree
- 2-4 years of experience in secretarial work
- Computer literate

Accounting Clerk

- Accounting graduate
- 2-4 years of experience in accounting work
- Computer literate

Please send resume, transcript of records and letter of application not later than July 22, 2003 to:

The Screening Committee
P.O. Box 13512 Ortigas Center Post Office
Pasig City 1605
Email: nmaphils@yahoo.com
Tel. No. 631-9006

DISCOVER, LEARN, WORK & EARN

BE A PART OF THE **IT INDUSTRY**

ANALYST

Code A01T

Qualifications:

1) Male or female, 21-28 years old.
2) BS Accountancy Graduate
3) Articulate
4) Above average written communication skills.
5) Knowledgeable in MS Excel.

Code A01E

Qualifications:

1) Male or female, 21-28 years old.
2) Work experience in Financial Reporting, Financial Analysis and/or Budgetting.
3) Proficient in MS Excel (Formatting, Formulas and Macros)

SPECIALIST

Code S03T

Qualifications:

1) Male or female, 21-28 years old.
2) Proficient in Visual Basic.
3) Proficient in any of the following databases (Oracle, MS SQL, MS Access, Btrieve or Pervasive SQL).
4) Knowledgeable in MS Excel (Formatting, Formulas and Macros)

Code S03E

Qualifications:

1) Male or female, 21-28 years old.
2) Proficient in C++
3) Proficient in any of the following databases (Oracle, MS SQL, MS Access, Btrieve or Pervasive SQL).

Ideal candidates should send their CV at:

1906 Prestige Tower, Emerald Avenue, Pasig City
or Email at wat@fpti.com.ph

We invite dynamic and goal-oriented professionals to be part of one of the leading corporation in the country

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER

(For Mindanao and Visayas Region)

- ➡ female, not over 35 years old
- ➡ graduate of Behavioral Science, Law, Psychology or any 4-year Management course
- ➡ with intensive experience in personnel management
- ➡ must be able to build and maintain professional relations with people in the organization

Interested applicants may send their resumé with recent photo at:

Box No. KA-002-03 MC
Philippine Daily Inquirer
G/F Trinity Bldg., 6367 T.M. Kalaw St.,
Ermita, Manila
or
e-mail at: prod_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph
(Subject: MC)

MARKETING ASSISTANT

- ☐ Female / Male
- ☐ Graduate of 4 year course in commerce
- ☐ 22-30 years old
- ☐ Must have at least 2 years experience
- ☐ Has good communication skills
- ☐ With pleasing personality

ADVANTAGE: work experience in sales / marketing in a plastic firm

SALES ENGINEER TECHNICIAN

- ☐ 25-40 years old
- ☐ Good communication skills
- ☐ Willing to travel
- ☐ At least 5 years experience as a Technician/Engineer in the following plastic manufacturing fields:
  - Film Bag Manufacturing
  - Film/Paper converting
  - Printing Packaging
  - Bottle/Injection
  - Extrusion

COMPUTER ADMINISTRATOR

- ☐ Graduate of 4 years computer course
- ☐ Full knowledge in computer networking
- ☐ Internet base programming
- ☐ Knowledge in trouble shooting

ACCOUNTING CLERK

- ☐ Graduate of BS Accountancy
- ☐ With at least 1 year experience in general & cost accounting
- ☐ Must be computer literate

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

- ☐ Single with pleasing personality
- ☐ At least 22-30 years old
- ☐ Excellent in written communication & interpersonal skills
- ☐ An individual that can work with minimum supervision
- ☐ A team – player, aggressive, self motivated and result oriented

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"Only short listed applicant will be contacted"

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big R Supercenter

NOW HIRING for Cainta-Junction!

Department Heads

Responsible for the execution of company objectives, achievement of sales and profitability targets, while ensuring the highest level of operation efficiency. Must have minimum 2 years retail experience, at least 26 years old with good interpersonal, organization and planning skills. Analytical, customer-oriented and can relate well with all levels in an organization.

Section Heads

Responsible for inventory and stock management, scheduling, sales forecasting and visual merchandising. Will also be tasked to motivate and maintain an effective and productive team. Must be willing to work a schedule of rotating shifts and weekends. Customer-oriented with excellent leadership, interpersonal and communication skills. Fresh graduates of any business course willing to undergo training are welcome to apply as Manager Trainees.

HR Officers

Main responsibility is to assist the HR Manager in ensuring the effective performance of store Human Resource functions in the areas of Recruitment and Selection, Employee Relations, and Benefits Administration. Those with 1-2 years relevant experience in HRMD are preferred

Store Logistics Officer

Main responsibility is to ensure the efficient and consistent flow of inventory while supervising a team of warehousing and receiving personnel. Those with experience in stock control, warehousing and receiving, gained in a consumer retail environment an advantage. Must be customer-oriented, with a sense of ownership, a keen eye on product quality an advantage.

Technical Support Staff

The ideal candidate must have knowledge in troubleshooting of different brands of PC, workstation, servers, printers and Local Area Network. Must also proficient in Windows NT/2000 server. Exposure in any platform of POS retail applications is an advantage.

Store Visual Artists

Must be a graduate of Bachelor of Science in Architecture/Interior Design or Fine Arts at least 23 years old. Knowledge in Corel Draw 9.0 and AUTOCADD 2000 an advantage. Creative, organized, and results-oriented

Accounting/Audit Staff

Must be a graduate of Bachelor of Science in Accountancy. Must be highly analytical and hardworking

Interested Applicants may send their Resumé and Application Letter with 2x2 colored picture to:
HRMD P.O. Box No. 13928
Ortigas Post Office Emerald Avenue, Pasig City
#1605
Or Email: HRMD@BIGR.com.ph

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FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING!

A leading multinational transport company is in need of a dynamic, assertive and mature professional to occupy the following position in our organization:

MARKETING EXECUTIVE

- Male or Female, not more than 30 years old with pleasing personality
- Holder of an appropriate college degree from a reputable school
- Must have relevant sales work experience in the same capacity preferably in air, land and sea transport
- Willing to travel anywhere in the Philippines
- Computer literate, has good communication skills, willing to listen and learn, mature and organized, and can work extended hours

An attractive compensation package awaits the successful candidates.

Qualified candidates are requested to **personally submit** their comprehensive and detailed resumé indicating the minimum salary desired, latest 2 x 2 photo, telephone number/s and other credentials **not later than JULY 21, 2003** to:

MOF Company (Subic), Inc.
6th Floor, CTC Building,
2232 Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City,
Metro Manila, Philippines

Attention: THE LEGAL & PERSONNEL AFFAIRS DEPT.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

TRAINING OFFICER

- M/F, 25 to 40 years of age & should be of high moral standards.
- Graduate of Behavioral Science, Business Management or other related course.
- Adept in all facets of personnel work.
- 3 years experience in training modules preparation & can conduct training programs
- Experiegce in restaurant chain is an advantage.
- Aggressive & result-oriented, good communication & inter-personal skills.

Kindly forward your credentials to:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
#918 BENAVIDEZ ST., BINONDO,
MANILA 1006

GRAND JOB FAIR OF

BUENCONSEJO, ILLUSTRADO & ASSOCIATES

URGENTLY NEEDS....

AREA MANAGER
MANAGEMENT TRAINEE
CORPORATE ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

45-GRADUATES OF: PT, OT, RT, BSN & anh MED. courses
* License of Non-License & good pleasing personality
30-GRADUATES OF: IE, ECE, EE, ME, CE & Archl.
* Self-motivated & willing to undergo training
20-GRADUATES OF: BSC, Tourism, Educ., Philo & Psyc
* Managerial skill is an advantage
12- GRADUATES OF: CoE, ComSci & other IT related courses.
* Creative, good analysis & hardworking

** Age 20 to 35 years old, with or w/o experience. Willing to be assign in diff. positions available in the company.
** Hiring starts on July 14-19, 2003 (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM) **Accepted applicants from July 14-19, 2003 will start immediately**

OFW & OCW ARE WELCOME TO APPLY

Interested applicants may apply personally with comprehensive resume, original credential and 2x2 picture at:

#235-C Mercan Bldg., EDSA Ext'n., Pasay City (near Savar's Square & Allied Bank, walking distance from MRT Taft & LRT Edsa station)

Look for MS. ESTRADA

[illegible]

Research Assistant

Male or female, 20-35 years old, with pleasing personality; College graduate preferably on Medical Sciences; Computer Literate

Submit your resumé with 2x2 picture at:
Rm. 152 Medical Arts Building
Cardinal Santos Medical Center
Wilson St., Greenhills, San Juan
Or call: 727-1732 / 726-1696
Sally or Cynthia

PHILIPPINE TATLER

The ***PHILIPPINE TATLER,*** Manila's premier Lifestyle and Society Magazine is looking for:

MARKETING AND SALES MANAGER

Male or Female. At least 3 years experience in the field of Marketing and Sales Management with a publication. Will be directly reporting to the General Manager and Managing Director. Will be responsible for managing the Sales team in achieving the monthly & yearly sales quotas of the publication. Must have excellent verbal & written communications skills. Must be hardworking & an effective team leader. Experience with a publication is needed.

ACCOUNT MANAGER (2)

Male or Female. Will be reporting directly to the Marketing & Sales Manager. Will be responsible for establishing sales to ad agencies and direct accounts, as well as acquiring new advertisers to achieve the monthly & yearly sales quotas of the publication. Must be hardworking & an effective team player. Minimum 2 years experience in the field of Marketing and Sales. Experience with a publication is needed.

Please send full resumé to...

THE PUBLISHER
THE PHILIPPINE TATLER
Unit 11A, 11th Floor, Manila Bank Bldg.
6772 Ayala Avenue, Makati City

BILLING AND COLLECTION HEAD

Responsible for organizing, leading, directing and implementing the nationwide billing and collection programs for the company. Responsible for the overall management of the billing & collection functions of the regional operations. You are also in-charge of portfolio management for Planholder's receivable, to formulate policies, procedures, contests and incentives to bring in the desired collection levels. You shall also conduct Collection Efficiency Training monitor collection efficiency rating of sales personnel and establish other collection conducts.

JOB SPECIFICATIONS:

- Preferably with prior experience in a pre-need or insurance company
- Experience in billing and collecting plan installments an advantage
- Must be attentive to details, with good analytical, organizing and planning skills
- Assertive, articulate, with above average oral and written communication skills
- Willing to travel to Visayas, Mindanao and Luzon branches
- Graduate of a 4 year business-related course from a reputable university
- 18-38 years old, male or female

BRANCH OPERATIONS HEAD

You take charge of the Branch Operations Group whose function is to ensure that the Branches network as a whole, and each unit has physical facilities to function efficiently and effectively in servicing the sales and collection requirements of the company.

YOU SHOULD POSSES THE FF. QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must have thorough understanding of the business' financial operations
- Must have excellent managerial skills
- Must be hardworking, dynamic, pro-active and result oriented
- Must have good communication skills
- Must be a college graduate with pleasing personality
- Preferably w/ experience in a managing capacity in a Branch operation of a financial or marketing institution
- Preferably with experience in Book-keeping, Cashiering and Office House-keeping
- Male or female, preferably 30-40 years of age.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Primarily tasked to provide secretarial and administrative assistance to a senior officer in the organization

- At least 2 years experience as
- Executive Secretary or Executive Assistant
- Proficient in English communication, both oral and written
- Highly personable, can work with minimum supervision, well-organized & willing to work long hours
- Computer literate, adept in word processing and spreadsheet application

Submit applications to
executive_search@platinumplans.com
or fax it to 811-6879. Or you may also call us at 887-8271 loc. 256

PLATINUM PLANS

DFNN

DFNN is a leading IT solutions provider and system integrator with a focus in the Financial Services Industry. We provide "IT Solutions" that increase efficiency and convenience through mobile computing devices and wireless technology with clients both domestic and global. Come visit http://www.dfnn.net to learn more.

We have immediate openings for the following positions:

Systems Analyst (Contractual)

This person will be tasked with requirements gathering, system analysis & design, test planning, test case development and supporting activities for our ongoing system implementation projects. The emphasis for this opportunity is the development and maintenance of technical documentation. Requirements:

BA/BS Degree in computer science, engineering or equivalent.
Two (2) years experience with system implementation and/or IT oriented projects.
Familiar with SDLC disciplines in an IT project.
Knowledge of Internet based applications and/or SMS applications a plus.

Java Developer (Full-Time) – 2 positions available

As a seasoned Java Developer, this person will be responsible for developing Internet and SMS based applications based on Open System Standards (e.g., J2EE). This candidate will participate in the analysis, design, integration and maintenance of our Internet and SMS applications using Java, Linux and Oracle-based technologies. Requirements:

BA/BS Degree in computer science, engineering or equivalent
Two (2) years experience with system implementation and/or IT oriented projects.
Must have at least 6 months of direct Java/J2EE experience.
Experience in server-side Java development and n-tier deployments a plus.
Working knowledge of Linux and Oracle desirable.
Candidate must have a strong background in systems integration.
Sun certification or IBM Websphere training a plus.

Web/WAP Developer (Full-Time) – 1 position available

As a Web/WAP Developer, this person will be responsible for developing Internet and SMS based applications based on a combination of the following skillsets: Win2k/IIS5.0, ASP, Javascript, Apache, Tomcat, Java, HTML, DHTML, CSS, XSLT, XML, WML. This candidate will participate in the analysis, design, integration and maintenance of our Internet and WAP applications. Requirements:

BA/BS Degree in computer science, engineering or equivalent.
Two (2) years experience with system implementation and/or IT oriented projects.
Must have at least 4 months of e-commerce and/or portal development experience.
Must have a history of programming achievement in n-tier architectures.
Candidate must have strong analysis and problem solving skills, and subject matter expertise in web development.
WAP experience is highly desired.

Please send your resume to:

PO Box MK-126
c/o Classified Ads Department
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Ground Floor, Atrium of Makati
Makati Avenue, Makati City

IMMEDIATE HIRING

1. ACCOUNTING CLERK

- Female
- Computer literate
- Must be aware in Accounting procedures

2. SALES REPRESENTATIVE

- Will undergo training for two weeks

APPLY IN PERSON AT:

ORIENT INTEGRATED COMMERCIAL, INC.
Units 102-103 Integrated
Professional Offices Bldg.
14 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City 1100
Tel. Nos. 712-3312; 712-3316; 712-3330

WANTED

TYPIST/STENOGRAPHER

- Male, 25 years old and above
- Graduate of a four-year college course
- With 1 year experience, typing speed of 45 WPM and steno at 60 WPM

Send bio-data with recent photo to:

P.O. Box 1295, Manila

or apply in person to:

626 Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
(infront of Funeraria Paz)

MANAGEMENT TRAINEE (for inside sales of)

- *Female, 20-28 years old, single*
- *B.S. Commerce graduate or any four-year course*
- *Experienced in the MS Office-must know Word & Excel*
- *With or without working experience*
- *Knowledge of Chinese Language is an advantage*

Interested Applicants may call

Tel. Nos. : 361-6669

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wistron

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[illegible]
Subic Bay Industrial Park, Phase I
Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Phils. 2200
Tel Nos. 252-7440 / Fax 252-6223

OUR COMPANY IS IN NEED OF A HIGH CALIBER CANDIDATES WHO CAN FILL UP THIS POSITION

LOGISTICS AND PLANNING SUPERVISOR

(Computer System Plant)

Qualifications:

- Male-Less than 35 years old; Mechanical Engineering graduate. Preferably can speak English fluently. Must have at least 4 years experience in Quality Engineering & Management. Must have a thorough knowledge in Inventory and Cost Analysis. Familiar with Problem Solving and Failure Analysis. Must have an operational knowledge in production control

Requirements:

- Updated resumé with recent photo • Diploma/Transcript of Records • Birth Certificate • Employment Certificate

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY SEND THEIR RESUMÉ TO:

THE PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT
c/o WISTRON INFOCOMM (PHILS). CORP.

An established and fast growing
infrastructure / utility corporation is looking for

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Qualifications:

- Must not below 35 years of age
- Must be a Bachelor in Accountancy
- Masters Degree would also be an advantage
- Must be a Certified Public Accountant
- Five (5) years experience in Auditing and Taxation
- Minimum of five (5) years in Managerial Work in related business

A competitive compensation package awaits you.
Interested applicants are invited to send their applications
together with curriculum vitae, diploma, transcript of records
and recent passport-sized photo to:

PEA TOLLWAY CORPORATION
PEA Tollway Compound
Aguinaldo Boulevard, Parañaque City

Attention: Human Resource Department

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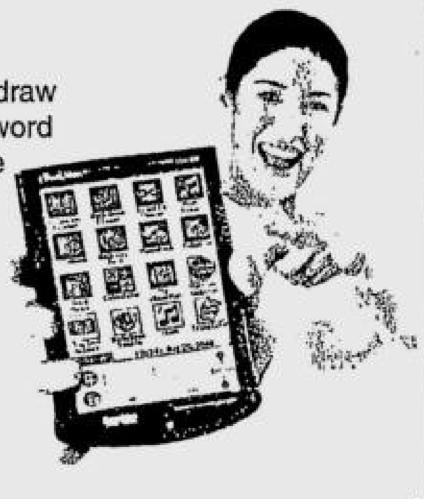

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A PROGRESSIVE COSMECEUTICAL COMPANY
IS IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING:

MEDICAL SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Qualifications:

- Must be 21-30 years old, female/male
- College graduate of any course
- Preferably with experience on drugs & cosmetics
- Has good oral communication skills & with self-confidence
- Trustworthy, has initiative and can work under minimal supervision

Interested applicants may send their complete resumé with recent picture attached to:

Code: QC - 2003-64
c/o Phil. Daily Inquirer
G/F St. Anthony's Building
891 Aurora Boulevard cor. Oxford St.
Cubao, Quezon City 1109

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YOUR GLOBAL CONNECTION

Be on the cutting edge of a dynamic and fast growing Company! We are inviting qualified applicants for the following positions:

OPERATIONS MANAGER

30 to 45 years of age, with at least 5 years experience in the field of Transport/Fleet management, Customer Service, with college degree (management degree an advantage) computer literate.

SALES MANAGER

30 to 45 years of age, with at least 5 years experience in sales, with college degree and computer literate.

Attractive Compensation and benefits
await the successful applicants.
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The keys to success is within your reach!
WE NEED YOU. YES, YOU!

A fast growing management and consultancy firm is in need of the following:

SALES ASSOCIATE

Female; Graduate of Marketing or any related business course, must have at least (2) yrs. work experience in real estate selling, property consultancy and management

TELEMARKETERS

Male/Female; Graduate of any four year business course, must have experience in customer service, telemarketing/selling. Not more than 35 years old, excellent communication skills

FOOD SERVICE SPECIALIST (Fulltime/Part-timers)

Male/Female, Graduate of HRM or any food service course. Must have experience in food demo / preparation, creative, and can handle client service and presentation requirements

FOOD SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Male; Not more than (35) yrs. old. Graduate of HRM or any business-related courses, Must have handled marketing, promotion, and selling of food products

ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR

Female, BS Accountancy Graduate from reputable University, preferably CPA, not more than 35 yrs. old; with at least 2 yrs. work experience in supervisory capacity, knowledgeable in general accounting works and government reportorial requirements

PROMO-MERCHANDISING PERSONNEL

Female; not more than 25 years old, can communicate well with different levels of people and must have pleasing personality.

WE OFFER COMPETITIVE COMPENSATION PACKAGE
AND CARRER-ENHANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Interested parties may submit resumé bio-data plus 2x2 photo at:

ATTENTION: Ms. GEENEE MERCADO
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Unit A2 Penthouse, Padilla Bldg., Emerald Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

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For inquiries and reservations:
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Tel #: 813 3000 loc. 502-505 / Email: addpro@add.com.ph

ADD

A leading jewelry manufacturing company based in Meycauayan, Bulacan is seeking qualified individuals for key positions to support its market expansion:

General Manager : 28-25 years old, 3 years or more of relevant work experience, preferably in the jewelry industry. Must be computer literate, proficient in financial analysis, and possess a strong grasp of product and business development.

Production Manager : Industrial Engineering degree, 24-30 years old, 3 years or more of relevant experience in managing and improving production processes. Training and warehouse management skills are an added advantage.

Sales & Marketing Manager : 25-35 years old, 4 years or more of relevant work experience and with proven track record in sales. Background in market channels and international sales is preferred. Established network and distribution contacts are a must.

Senior Designer : 24-30 years old, 3 years or more of relevant experience in the jewelry or fashion industry. Knowledge of the latest trends in Europe and the USA is a must. (Applicants for interview are required to bring their design portfolio.)

Accountant : 23-30 years old, CPA, 2 years or more of relevant experience in general accounting, budgeting, costing, financial analysis and internal control. Familiarity with government regulatory requirements is a must.

Executive Assistant : 23-30 years old, 2 years or more relevant experience. Must be organized, articulate, self-motivated, and able to maintain confidentiality and professionalism.

Interested applicants may submit their comprehensive resumé not later than July 23, 2003 to: **Attn.: The President, 64 Maayusin St., UP Village, Diliman, QC 1101**

ALTERATIONS *PLUS*
3/F Builders Centre Bldg., 170 Salcedo St. Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. # 893-4504 * 893-4507 * Fax # 816-2807
Email: ljcgarments@yahoo.com

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

- Female, BS Industrial Engineering graduate
- With 1-2 years experience in garments/marketing company
- With excellent oral & written communication skills in English
- Knowledgeable in handling inventory control & planning
- Able to analyze production systems & capable of establishing good coordination with other departments and suppliers, an advantage.
- Experienced in handling a retail store/outlet, an advantage
- Computer literate

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY CUM RECEPTIONIST

- Female, College Graduate
- With relevant experience in the same capacity
- With excellent oral & written communication skills in English
- Customer-oriented.
- Computer literate

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

- Female, BS Accountancy graduate
- With 1-2 years experience in the same capacity
- Experienced in assisting in Financial statement & payroll preparation
- Knowledgeable with accounting cycle
- Computer literate

SEND OR FAX YOUR RESUMÉ & APPLICATION LETTER ON ADDRESS / FAX NO. STATED ABOVE

INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

EDITORIAL OFFICE ASSISTANT
Legaspi Bureau

Qualifications:

- Degree in Journalism, Mass Communication or any related field
- With at least 1 year related experience

Responsibilities:

- Assist in coordinating stories with Bureau correspondents and news sources
- Taking down news advisories
- Initial preparation on news summaries
- Write stories upon assignment
- Assist in coordinating with Head Office news desk for news data, production reports and correspondent's payments

Mail your application letter and comprehensive resumé to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City
E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

DESK EDITORS

Qualifications:

- College graduate preferably major in Journalism or any Social Sciences course
- Must have 3 years experience in newspaper Journalism
- Must at least 1 year experience in editing stories and designing/layouting pages

Responsibilities:

- Coordinates news gathering activities
- Edits news stories and designs the layout of newspaper pages

Mail your application letter and comprehensive resumé to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City
E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

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Midwife or Nurse
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8424226, 8258642
Fax Resumé 7240839

CAPITAL CROSSING

Capital Crossing Asia, Inc. is a joint venture company with operations in Makati and the US, handling in and out-bound calls. We are currently looking for people with the following qualifications:

- College graduate (for full time) / College Students (for part time)
- Fluent in both oral and written English (US)
- Knowledgeable in basic PC applications
- Highly motivated, Self-confident
- Willing to work night shifts & weekends

Available positions:

☐ **Financial Analyst** – minimum 6 months prior credit and collection experience, preferably in the Financial Services Industry (FSI)
☐ **Training Specialist** – responsible for organizing training for a group, develop training documentation to support operations departmental needs. Design, develops & delivers training
☐ **Quality Assurance Specialist** – responsible for observing Financial Analysts, monitoring customer calls & conducting customer satisfaction surveys. Knowledge of A/R operations & practices preferred.
☐ **HR Manager** - minimum 2 years prior supervisory experience, preferably in Contact Center Operations or FSI.

Bring your resumé to:

Capital Crossing Asia, Inc.
2/F BPI Buendia Center, Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue cor. Makati Ave., Makati City
Or email to: CCAHR@capcrossing.com
**Please indicate the position being applied for and either (full or part time)*

SANDVIK

SANDVIK PHILIPPINES, INC.

Sandvik Philippines, Inc. is a subsidiary of Sandvik AB, a Sweden-based worldwide group with over 300 companies in 130 countries and with 37,000 employees. The **Coromant** Business Area of Sandvik is the world's No. 1 supplier of tools and techniques for competitive machining.

is in **immediate** need of

APPLICATIONS ENGINEER

Qualifications:

- Male/Female, at least 23 years old.
- Mechanical Engineering graduate or an equivalent professional experience in Metalcutting Industry.
- Sales experience of modern metalcutting tools is an advantage.
- Good command of written and spoken English.
- Must have own car and with valid driver's license.
- Computer literate.
- Willing to work on out-of town assignment.

Responsibilities:

- Provide technical knowledge, support and recommendations of cutting tools to improve customers' productivity.
- Provide customer training in cutting tools technologies.

We offer an attractive salary commensurate with the successful candidate's qualification and experience. Please send your application and resume stating qualifications, experience, expected salary, transcript of records and recent 2 x 2 photo to:

Human Resources
Sandvik Philippines, Inc.
Km 20 East Service Road,
South Superhighway, 1770 Muntinlupa City
or thru e-mail address: ederlyn.y.vivo@sandvik.com

(All applications will be treated with utmost confidentiality.
Only shortlisted applicants will be scheduled for interview.)

SUNDAY, JULY 13, 2003
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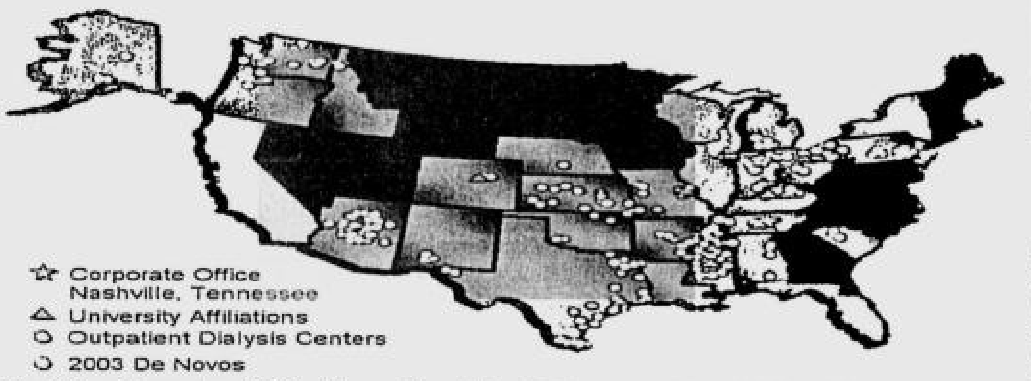
BE SMART/ AVAIL OF OUR EXPERTISE AND AVOID SALARY CUTS BY STAFFING ENTITIES AND HOSPITAL CONTRACTORS. YOUR BEST CHOICE IS DIRECT EMPLOYMENT WITH

RENAL CARE GROUP (RCG).



- ☆ Corporate Office Nashville, Tennessee
- △ University Affiliations
- ○ Outpatient Dialysis Centers
- ○ 2003 De Novos

Renal Care Group, Inc. (RCG) will be recruiting additional Filipino nurses. Since their first trip last February 2001, **Renal Care Group** has already employed **25** nurses deployed by **IPAMS** and **HealthStar** along with their bona fide families. They are now conveniently settled and enjoying their new life and rewarding careers with **RCG.** Additional **20** nurses are scheduled to arrive in the U.S.A. by December 2003.

Renal Care Group is a specialized dialysis services company that provides care to patients with kidney disease. The company currently treats over **20,000** patients at more than **260** owned outpatient dialysis facilities, in addition to providing acute dialysis services at **120** hospitals. Over **6,500** associates provide services across the company's **27 - U.S. State network**.

www.renalcaregroup.com

RNs WITH PASSING SCORES IN CGFNS, TSE, IELTS, or NCLEX, and EXPERIENCE IN DIALYSIS, ICU, or MED-SURG MAY APPLY. OTHER RNs WHO ARE AWAITING RESULTS OR HAVE A TEST DATE FOR THE CGFNS or NCLEX ARE ALSO WELCOME TO APPLY.

Come and meet us on the following final interview dates:

CEBU - **Marriott Hotel** July 28th & 29th
MANILA - IPAMS **Office** July 30th, 31st, & August 1st

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WILL BE PROVIDED TO SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES TO COVER ALL PROCESSING AND VISA FEES TO INCLUDE REVIEW & TESTING FEES FOR CGFNS, TOEFL/TWE, TSE, NCLEX PLUS FREE AIRFARE AND ONE MONTH HOUSING IN THE U.S.A.

HealthStar International Inc., from ***Houston, Texas*** will be in town on **July 28** to **August 1, 2003** identifying nurses for its client, ***Renal Care Group based in Nashville, Tennessee.*** There will be a final selection with **direct hire contract execution.**

To take advantage of this opportunity, candidates must apply ASAP by submitting comprehensive resume, school records (diploma, transcript of records), board rating, training certificates, employment credentials, plus two (2) passport photographs to:

IPAMS
since 1972
Registration No. 9615700
POEA-161-LB-040102-R

INDUSTRIAL PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.
1455 Leon Guinto Sr. St. Malate, Metro Manila, 1004 Philippines
E-Mail: us@ipams.com / Fax: 521-1189 or 521-1320
U.S. Division Mobile No.: 0917-8919190 or 0918-9215891
Website: www.ipams.com

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Industrial Personnel and Management Services, Inc. (IPAMS) VARIOUS *OVERSEAS OPENINGS*

IRELAND

GENERAL OPERATIVES PLASTIC ROTATIONAL MOLDING	HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES WITH AT LEAST ONE (1) YEAR EXPERIENCE IN A PLASTIC ROTATIONAL MOLDING SPECIFICALLY BIG COMMERCIAL TANKS, BUNKERS, PLASTIC TUBS, ETC CAN COMMUNICATE WELL IN VERBAL AND WRITTEN ENGLISH
SPRING MAKERS SPRING COIL MAKING COMPANY	HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES WITH MINIMUM THREE (3) YEARS EXPERIENCE IN A SPRING COIL MAKING COMPANY MUST BE FAMILIAR IN THE USE OF "WAFIOS MACHINE" OR SIMILAR TYPE CAN COMMUNICATE WELL IN VERBAL AND WRITTEN ENGLISH
WORKING CHEF HOTEL & RESTAURANT	MINIMUM 2-3 YEARS EXPERIENCE AS A "WORKING CHEF" IN A PROMINENT HOTEL OR RESTAURANT FAMILIAR WITH INTERNATIONAL CUISINES (EUROPEAN IN PARTICULAR) AND CAN ALSO DO MEAL PLANNING AND CATERING MUST ALSO BE WILLING TO WORK IN SHIFTS

DOHA, QATAR

CARGO PERSONNEL AIRLINE COMPANY	HEAD OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT / REGIONAL CARGO SALES COORDINATORS / HEAD OF CARGO SERVICES / CARGO SPACE CONTROL AGENTS / BUSINESS ANALYSTS FOR CARGO / SENIOR CARGO SALES EXECUTIVES / CARGO RAMP AGENTS - MINIMUM 3 YEARS IN THE AIRLINE INDUSTRY
ENGINEERS & TECHNICIANS OIL & GAS COMPANY	ELECTRICAL / MECHANICAL / INSTRUMENT / CONTROL ROOM OPERATORS / PROCESS TECHNCIANS / ROUSTABOUTS / MATERIAL CLERKS

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

GROUND PERSONNEL AIRLINE COMPANY	LOADING TEAM LEADERS / SENIOR MECHANICS (LINE) / MECHANICS (WORKSHOP) / ELECTRICIANS (WORKSHOP) / EQUIPMENT OPERATORS - MINIMUM 3 YEARS IN THE AIRLINE INDUSTRY
SUPERMARKET PERSONNEL CSA / CASHIERS / COUNTER STAFF / BUCTHERS / BAKERS / FLORISTS	MINIMUM THREE (3) YEARS EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE SUPERMARKET (RUSTANS, SM, MAKRO, ETC.) OR GROCERIES AND FAMILIAR WITH ALL PHASES OF SUPERMARKET OPERATIONS MUST BE COMPUTER LITERATE AND CAN COMMUNICATE WELL IN VERBAL AND WRITTEN ENGLISH YOUNG & ENERGETIC CANDIDATES NOT OVER 35 YEARS OLD REQUIRED
DESIGNERS / FLORISTS DESIGN / FLOWER COMPANY	MINIMUM THREE (3) YEARS EXPERIENCE AS A DESIGNER / FLORIST IN A WEDDING, STAGE AND PRODUCTION DESIGNING MUST HAVE VERY GOOD COMMUNICATION SKILLS WITH PLEASANT PERSONALITY MUST BE WILLING TO WORK LONG HOURS

ABU DHABI, U.A.E.

CLOTHING WORKSHOP STAFF CLOTHING COMPANY	MINIMUM THREE (3) YEARS EXPERIENCE IN MAKING PATTERNS, CUTTING AND STITCHING BASED ON THE DESIGN DRAWINGS MUST BE FAMILIAR IN THE USE OF THE COMPUTER AND SOFTWARES USED IN THE DESIGNS AND PATTERN-MAKING IN A CLOTHING INDUSTRY

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

SAWMILL OR PLYWOOD MAINTENANCE ENGINEERS	MECHANICAL ENGINEERING GRADUATES WITH TEN (10) YEARS PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IN MECHANICAL DESIGN, SAWMILL AND PLYWOOD FACTORIES' EQUIPMENTS AND MACHINERIES KNOWLEDGEABLE IN MACHINE SHOP PRACTICE AND DAY TO DAY STEAM BOILER OPERATIONS

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

ANESTHESIA TECHNICIANS OIL & GAS COMPANY	LICENSED B.S. NURSING OR ALLIED MEDICAL DEGREE / COURSES WITH RELEVANT EXPERIENCE IN THE SAME FIELD ADEPT IN O.R. / CENTRAL SUPPLY ROOM AND SPECIAL PROCEDURE METHODOLOGIES.
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PROCESS ENGINEERS CABLE COMPANY	ENGINEERING GRADUATES WITH MINIMUM FIVE (5) YEARS EXPERIENCE IN HANDLING TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS OF VARIOUS PROCESS AND INTERNATIONAL CABLE SPECS CAN DEVELOP PROCESS TO MAKE IT EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT CAN DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY FOR USING NEW EQUIPMENT AND COMPOUNDS IN A MANUFACTURING PROCESS WILLING TO WORK IN SHIFTS
LINE OPERATORS CABLE COMPANY	MINIMUM HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES WITH MINIMUM FIVE (5) YEARS EXPERIENCE IN A CABLE MANUFACTURING COMPANY MUST BE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE WELL IN ENGLISH YOUNG & ENERGETIC CANDIDATES REQUIRED
CLIPPER PROGRAMMERS FIBERGLASS COMPANY	B.S. COMPUTER SCIENCE / ENGINEERING GRADUATES WITH AT LEAST 3 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN CLIPPER PROGRAMMING IN A NETWORK ENVIRONMENT (NOVELL 3.X OR HIGHER)
SURVEYORS	ENGINEERING GRADUATES WITH RELEVANT EXPERIENCE IN THE MINING INDUSTRY
OPERATORS ALUMINUM COMPANY	CNC MILLING OPERATORS / CONVENTIONAL MILLING OPERATORS / LARGE CL TURNERS / MAINTENANCE-IN-CHARGE (MECHANICAL & ELECTRICAL) *EXPERIENCE IN ANODIZED, MILL-FINISH AND POWDER COATED ALUMINUM PRODUCTS YOUNG & ENERGETIC CANDIDATES PREFERRED*
MECHANICS HEAVY EQUIPMENT / FORKLIFTS	RELEVANT EXPERIENCE IN THE OPERATIONS, REPAIR, MAINTENANCE, TROUBLESHOOTING OF FORKLIFTS AND VARIOUS HEAVY EQUIPMENT APPROPRIATE OPERATOR / MECHANIC LICENSE / QUALIFICATION REQUIRED
PLANT MECHANICS FIBERGLASS COMPANY	KNOWLEDGEABLE IN FACTORY MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT & SYSTEMS, HYDRAULIC AND PNEUMATIC SYSTEMS, STATIONARY EQUIPMENTS, GEAR BOXES, BEARINGS, SEALS AND MECHANICAL ASSEMBLY / DIS-ASSEMBLY

BRUNEI

SCAFFOLD ESTIMATORS OIL & GAS COMPANY	MINIMUM FIVE (5) YEARS IN THE HEAVY INDUSTRIAL SCAFFOLD INDUSTRY AND HAVE A COMPREHENSIVE KNOWLEDGE OF PLANNING, ESTIMATING AND SAFETY STANDARDS REQUIRED IN LARGE SCAFFOLD PROJECTS ON OFFSHORE / ONSHORE INSTALLATIONS

SUBMIT COMPREHENSIVE RESUME WITH DETAILED JOB DESCRIPTION PLUS COPIES OF EMPLOYMENT & SCHOOL CREDENTIALS, PASSPORT COPY AND TWO (2) PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOS TO

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POEA-161-LB-040102-R

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LTSI needs 50 nurses for USA

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(Wednesday) 3 to 6 pm

VENUE : THE PEARL
MANILA HOTEL,
Gen Luna St.
corner Taft & UN Avenue,
Ermita, Manila.

TOPIC : The fastest way to get H-1B Visa

NOTE: Those waiting for their CGFNS/NCLEX results may also come. Attendees must present their Nursing license in the Registration.

SEMINAR
TO BE CONDUCTED BY:

EXPERT ON
US IMMIGRATION LAWS
ATTY. CARLOS REYES
Legal Counsel

US PRINCIPAL:

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7. We have nationwide connections. We have access to various hospitals across the USA!

◆ **NO TOEFL / NO TSE REQUIRED!!!**

◆ **YOU CAN GO TO USA AFTER 2 TO 3 MONTHS!!!**

◆ **SALARY CAN BE UP TO US$25 / HR!!!**

Qualifications:

1. Registered Nurse.
2. CGFNS or NCLEX Holder.
3. With one to two years hospital experience.

For Inquiries:
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729 2802
TEXT : 0917 843 5335

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Sitcom at work

By Resty S. Odon

WHERE I work is clearly not a place for everyone. It's where you find the highest concentration of cuckoos in the world. It's not an aviary, silly, it's a mental hospital. You don't want to get near here if you're not a confirmed psychotic of some sort. I hate it here myself, being someone allegedly more mainstream, though I'm capable of being an imbecile sometimes.

Day in and day out, I encounter cases of craziness without fail like this squeaky morning greeting from Alma: "Hi! What can I do for you that you cannot do for me?" After you politely snicker, she backs it up with, ***"O, tuwang-tuwa ka** na naman at nakita mo ako*?" How the heck can I answer a question like that? Well, I don't; I get even—by throwing back an equally unanswerable question. I would want these clowns to get their comeuppance.

Situations, and officemates, get weirder. William is notorious for such tomfoolery as, *"Pakisabi pag tumawag si _____, resigned na ko."* When he does get a call, we tell his mysterious caller, "Sorry *ha, sabi niya wala raw siya, nasa* field *na, nagtatanim*." Ramil is known for these one-liners: "*Hoy, guluhin mo na ang buhay ko, huwag lang ang buhok ko!*" "*O, ba't ka nahihiya hindi ka naman nakahubad?*" William is the performer who, when he's about to leave the office, goes into a deliberate coughing fit, then hollers, "Absent *ako* (cough) *bukas* (cough)...see you (cough) next week!"

Weird and weirder

It doesn't matter what time of the working day it is. When someone steals a minute out to buy something, someone is sure to harangue that person with, "And *who* do you think you're going?" Over lunch, people announce "*Kain kami!*" instead of the usual charitable invite, "*Kain tayo!*" A variation is used at quitting time when

POSTCARDS *from the* CORPORATE EDGE

people would say, "Bye! *Ingat ako!*" instead of the thoughtful "*Ingat ka!*"

A self-confessed 'Promil kid,' Carlo is our mascot. He entertains us by imitating Nora Aunor: "My brother is not a fig! My brother is not a fig!" Then the next moment, he sings, "The albatross and the whales, they are my brothers." This buffoon doesn't hesitate to sing lines from Mulan, too, at the drop of a hat: "Who is that girl I see, staring straight back at me?..." Of course, it helps that he only sings in monotone.

Unbelievable laughter

My only contribution to this cuckoos' nest, and it's not even original, is when I get to answer the phone and say, "*O kumusta, ano'ng balita bukod sa wala*?" The rest of my coworkers find that line moronic but I consider it a stroke of genius.

With such a lot, we're almost always laughing here if we're not actually working. It's as though we've been employed just to laugh and laugh at Hyenas Inc. which is, on second thought, harder to do than really working.

On good days, our spontaneity is unbelievable. Conversations would be spattered with these gems:

"Change me." (English translation of "*Ibahin mo ako.*")

"Are you tomorrow?" ("*Ikaw ba ang naka*-duty *bukas?*")

"Are you today?" ("*Ikaw ba ngayon?*")

Working wackiness

If you think our manager is the only sane businesslike person here, you're mistaken. If we're not locked up in her room for the usual sermons, she's cracking us up and keeping us in stitches. For example, Titay has this habit of approaching our cubicle for small talk and quoting a combination of Edgar Allan Poe and Joyce Kilmer like "The night is young/and so are we,/but only God/can make a tree."

Helloo 2 me!
Steph B.

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPHANIE BRAVO

Callers who hear us over the phone often wonder, "*Nasa palengke ba kayo*?" or "Locker room *ba yan*?" Unlike in other workplaces, there's something awfully wrong when our office is thunderously silent. Either we are being rushed by our client who does not appreciate a good joke or everyone's not on speaking terms with everyone because of a badly delivered spiel. Then, life in the office becomes boring and normal.

The miracle of miracles is, we deliver in spite of all the wackiness. Ask our CEO, who's certainly no less than a cuckoo, too.

(Send your contributions to Postcards to rreyes@inquirer.com.ph.*)*

7 skills you need to succeed

By Ian Harrison

THE PATH to career advancement is beset with speed bumps designed to make your quest more difficult. Yet some seem to have the right vehicle to navigate the road and end up in a position of power. Is it a question of personality, luck, knowledge or pedigree? A combination of all is required to make it big in the business world.

Find out where you fit in and how you can improve with the following list of tangible and intangible skills you need to succeed.

1. Leadership

Tough to instill and almost impossible to teach, leadership is the most obvious skill you need if you want to scale the corporate ladder. Whether you lead by example or with your voice, can you motivate people to work toward a common goal? To do so, you need strength of character, integrity and conviction, not to mention an unwavering confidence.

2. Technical knowledge

No matter what discipline you majored in at school, you cannot advance in business today without some technical expertise. You can be an accounting wizard but if you want to take over the company, you need to beef up your programming and system administration acumen. Technology is the driving force of the economy—there is no business that does not need or use it. So become familiar with the technological infrastructure of your firm and any potential advancement that could benefit the company in the future.

3. Communication

An elusive intangible to some, effective communication is an ability that is acquired by proper listening. Many forget that fact, logical as it is. How can you transmit an idea or mandate if you do not heed the call of your people? The secret to good communication is multifaceted. Eye contact, patience, a versatile vocabulary, and a smooth vocal cadence are necessary to get your memorandum across. An expert communicator can make up for a deficiency in another area with his mouth alone, so maximize that jovial personality and sharp wit.

4. Language

We hear about business from a global perspective more than ever now, to the point that it has become a cliché in the corporate vernacular. That being said, a second or third language is a powerful asset to add to your arsenal. If you want to make CEO, there may be some international travel involved. Why not discover what language would be useful to aid in your career advancement? Popular choices in the corporate world today include Spanish, Mandarin and Japanese.

5. Business savvy

Business savvy is the collection of knowledge about your industry and company in general. What is the driving force of the industry? Who are the major players and how do they interact? Read a variety of business publications to keep up.

From a micro point of view, it is crucial to familiarize yourself with the company beyond your department. How do the main business functions operate? How does pertinent information flow? How can the company become more efficient?

In order to stay out of the dark, talk to the people who decide on the fate of the firm. Never hesitate to ask a relevant business question.

6. Financial knowledge

Revenue is what determines the survival of a company. Without it, a firm is dead in the water. The quest to achieve profit is incessant. The problem is that some people are far removed from that aspect of the business and lose touch with the bottom line. Try to keep in mind the financial health of your employer. Try to think of a way you can bring money into the company. This is how to remain viable and attractive for promotion.

7. Solution detection

The trait that is perhaps at the root of the most successful business leaders is the ability to devise a solution to a major problem. It is a general, intangible skill that can set you apart from the pack and work in your favor when you seek to move up in the corporate world. Impossible to quantify on a resume or in an interview, solution detection is a skill you must exercise and publicize. No matter what discipline or department you work in, find out what the most common problems are. Find out and act. The most driven people set everything aside to tackle an obstacle.

The point is not to become complacent in your routine and content to pick up your pay slip. Make something happen and get noticed.

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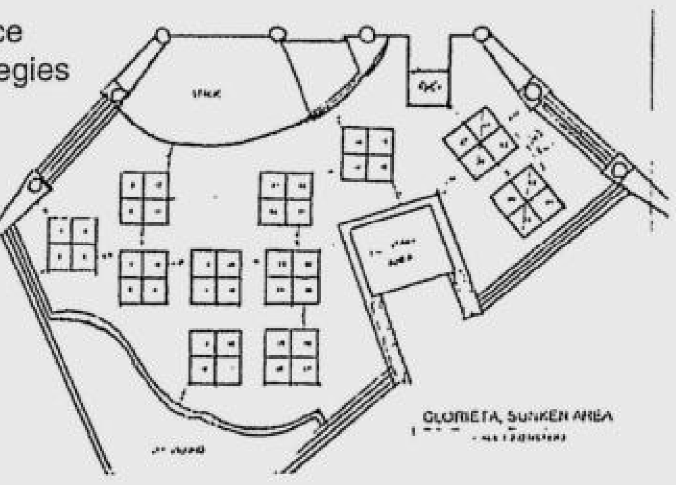

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HR Focus

'Three Cs help my company become more competitive'

By Rochelle Leonor

SHE is a hands-on HR practitioner, preferring to give pep talks to her staff rather than confining herself in the four walls of her room. She encourages her people to keep on learning, molding them to be better professionals. Dana Abigail Esteban, HR manager of HBC Inc., finds fulfillment in touching other people's lives.

Esteban, who is responsible for all facets of HR, sees the strategic importance of her work. "To survive today's workplace changes, HR practitioners should be strategic business partners," she says. "In HBC, we help line managers understand and improve their business processes. We help them to reach their sales targets and other objectives."

Competitiveness

Presently, Esteban is applying the framework of the three Cs—corporate citizenship, contextual framework and core competencies—in her HR work. These, she says, are dimensions that will help HBC be more competitive. Her HR programs promote corporate citizenship to inculcate in HBC employees the values, tradition, mission and vision of the company. The contextual framework gives employees the big picture for the company. "We have to know what our products are, who our competitors are, what are the best practices in the industry," she explains. Based on these two Cs, the core competencies are identified and developed in all employees.

HBC is a retail company owned by the Hortaleza family. Its CEO is Dr. Rosalinda Hortaleza, who Esteban considers her mentor. Presently, it has 700 employees, with 86 branches nationwide. It was more popularly known as the Hortaleza Beauty Center. However, the company is changing its image. The company has its own line of beauty products, ranging from shampoo to foot spray to bath soaps. All are reasonably priced. "What's good about our products is that the employees themselves use these."

Changing image

Esteban says that HR plays an important role in the company's strategy to change its image. "We are hiring good people who can help mold a new image for the company," she says. Hiring seasoned and experienced practitioners in the different facets of the organization is one of her goals. "These people are essential in changing public perception,"

Esteban sees herself as a democratic boss. She mingles with the people and she uses a feedback system. "I like giving pep talks to empower them," she says. Each working day at HBC starts with a prayer—faith is a part of the company's core values. This is followed by her pep talks, updating her staff with the latest HR trends.

Esteban also has her share of challenges. She says that with 700 employees, managing them can be difficult at times. Fortunately for her, technology is present to help. She can easily communicate with different branch heads via email to update her. HBC also has an "Adopt a Branch" program wherein the management committee members have designated branches under their wings. Esteban handles the District 6 branches. "Every Saturday, I visit them so I know what their needs and concerns are," she explains.

ESTEBAN PHOTO BY JOHNNY VILLENA

Exposure

Esteban is a human resources management graduate from the De La Salle University. A month before she marched for graduation, she was hired by the UFC Group of Companies as HR assistant. She stayed there for two years before moving to AMA Group of Companies. She stayed with AMA for almost two years. Prior to HBC, Esteban also worked for Celebrity Sports Plaza. While working, she also took her MBA from the Philippine School for Business Administration.

Esteban says her exposure to different industries helped her to mature as an HR professional, claiming she understands her job more. "During Mancom meetings, I am able to share the best practices of each industry. I contribute insights on marketing, finance, operations, etc.," she adds.

On her spare time, Esteban likes to read a wide array of books. She is happily married with two sons. She plans to take her PhD soon and aspires for further professional growth. "I dream of becoming a CEO one day," she explains. Professionally, Esteban plans to be more active in the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP) and Philippine Society for Training and Development (PSTD). She hopes that HBC will soon be accepted as a PMAP member.

Contribution

She says her greatest contribution so far is streamlining the work processes in HBC. "What used to be done with 10 steps, now we can do it in three steps," she explains. She also introduced the work/life balance program in HBC. However, she is quick to add that this wouldn't be possible without the help of the employees. "Since we treat each other as family, teamwork has always been important."

Be a winner...

(From page K16)

jobs. Ask your friends for openings. If you have some negative elements in your resumé, prepare to give a straightforward answer.

One technique I recommend is preparing for the interview. Be aware that interviewers are trained to ask questions that will provide them data on behaviors and competencies. You have to be able to build rapport with the interviewer, give a listening ear and speak with competence and confidence. Take an assertive, not an aggressive or submissive stance. My suggestion is to identify what these competencies are, draw up possible interview questions and role-play them with a friend. Afterward, ask your friend feedback on your demonstrated strengths and weaknesses during the interview.

Options

If you did not make it to a call center, apply with a company in the "transcription business" where good written English is more crucial than oral communication. Read the Job Market section on Sundays, where these companies advertise.

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(Ms Puangco is CEO and chair of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting. Send comments, feedback or requests for advice through e-mail to advice@ancillaedc.com.ph *or fax to 892-2902.)*

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Suite 5C Unioil Building
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3. Experience in accounting systems management;
4. Experience in staff supervision and team leadership;
5. Excellent computer skills with spread sheet and word processing ability;
6. The ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with immediate superior, subordinates, co-workers and associates;
7. Excellent written and oral communication skills; and
8. Ability to work under pressure and within tight schedule/deadline.

Qualified applicants may send their application letter, comprehensive resume indicating their contact details, recently taken 2x2 ID picture, photocopy of transcript of records and other credentials to:

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Look for Marie or Arlene

MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES
DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS

MSF - Switzerland
(Street Children Project)
1519 F. Benitez St.,
Paco, City of Manila 1007
Tel. (+ 632) 404 20 84
Fax (+ 632) 526 42 38
msfch-sc@compass.com.ph

MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES (MSF) a non-profit, non-governmental international humanitarian organization, accredited by the Department of Health whose objective is to bring medical aid to population in crisis, is now in need of staff for the Street Children Project in Manila:

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- Experience in social work within Metro Manila
- Good communications and interpersonal relation skills
- Experience in project design, proposal writing and program activities implementation
- Fluent in English & Tagalog
- Experience in NGO settings an advantage

All application letter, comprehensive resumé with recent 2x2 photo, copy of diploma and transcript of records must be mailed, hand-carried or e-mailed to:

MS. MILENA OSORIO
Project Coordinator
Street Children Project
1519 F. Benitez St., Paco, Manila 1007
Telefax 526-4238
Email: msfch-sc@compass.com.ph

(Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.)

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We are looking for an energetic, aggressive and creative individual to be our:

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- College graduate preferably major in marketing or any related field
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e-mail: peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph.

Sunday PEOPLE at WORK

Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

Be a winner, expand your area of influence

By Tita Datu Puangco

Advice
FOR THE ANXIOUS PERSON AT WORK

I AM a frequent reader of your column. I am a 35-year-old male who has been unemployed for more than two years. In the first year, most of my time was spent taking care of a sick relative. After that, I tried getting a job as a researcher or writer, but competition was stiff. Even people who tried to help failed to do so. I even applied to various call centers but I also failed to get a job. I am worried that I might not be able to get a job. It really depresses me, because not only am I broke, people are criticizing me because I am still unemployed. What would you recommend in my case?

Lonesome Loser

The name you gave yourself can be a self-fulfilling prophecy. You are not a lonesome loser. You are a child of God and He has given you talents and treasures that you may not be aware of. Get a clean sheet of paper and write down all your strengths and talents. List down also the blessings you have received in your lifetime, people who have cared and nurtured you and the Providence that comes to you daily.

External factors

So, what are the reasons you can't get a job? Some factors are within your control but others are not. An aspect you can't control, for example, is the country's economic situation. While there is a lot of talk on job creation, we still do not see a solid national strategy and framework in place that can yield the quantum results required to absorb the bulk of graduates who desire to join the work force annually. You have to compete in the job market and today, the market puts a premium (whether it is fair or not) on youth with their tech savvy skills. What you have on your side is experience, so make this your selling point.

Then again, the phenomenon of globalization has resulted in what is called "de-jobbing." Companies, especially the multinationals and the transnationals, who used to be big creators of jobs, are today actually shedding jobs. The reason is global competition. Companies have to keep their costs down and maximize profits to remain competitive. They therefore push toward improved operational efficiency and speed, helped greatly by technology.

But what is within your area of control or area of influence? One is to maintain a positive mindset despite the odds. One effect of not having a job is the loss of self-esteem that leads to depression. Our achievement-oriented society sizes up the value of the person based on his position title or the size of his/her bankbook. Personally, in my view, the fact that you took care of an ailing relative is of equal weight in terms of importance. It definitely added to your competencies as well as built in you a number of virtues. Don't also allow the pressure of the expectations in our macho- oriented society that man has to be breadwinner to shackle you. To lessen pressure, live by the day and live every present moment well, doing what you have to do with peace and calm.

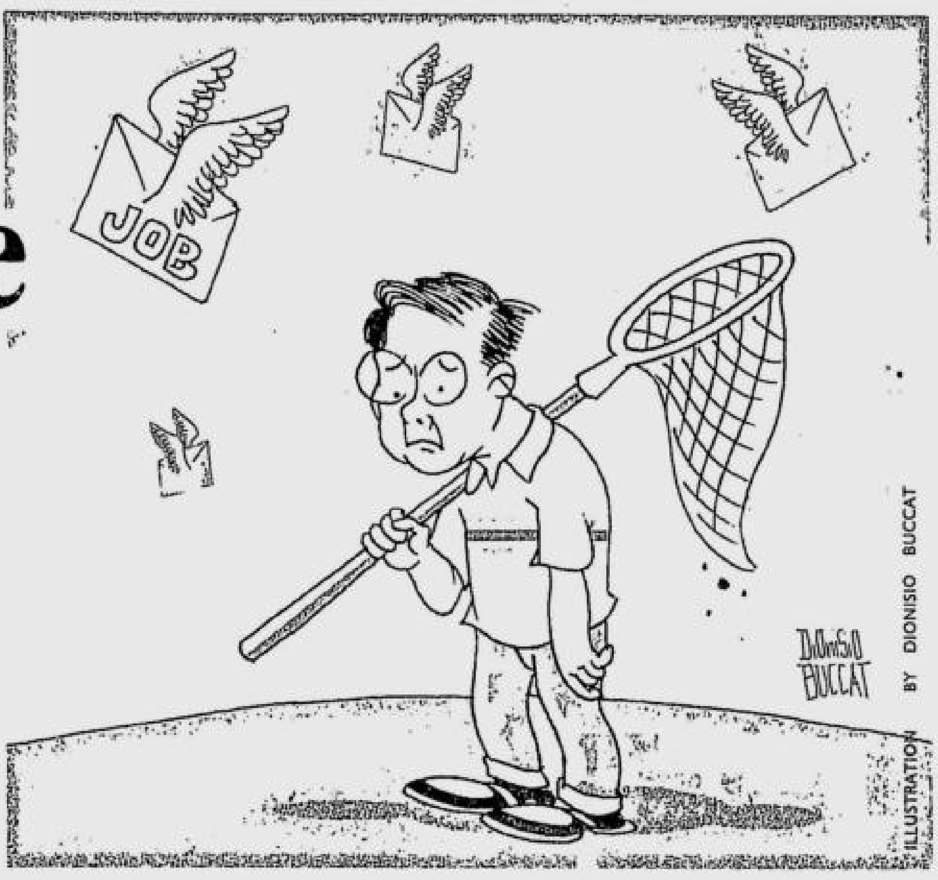

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

Writing skills

Now, what to do? Reading your letter gave me information as to some of your capabilities. One is your ability to communicate in writing and your skill for self-expression. Many companies need people like you. But I would need to look at your resume to be able to say more.

You may also need to undergo coaching in landing a job. Find a knowledgeable friend or relative who is experienced in human resource management. You may have to redesign your resumé to highlight your strengths and accomplishments. You will need to expand your horizon in terms of job possibilities. Go beyond the traditional jobs. Ask your friends for openings. If you have some negative elements in your resumé, prepare to give a straightforward answer.

BEAWINNER/K14

WHAT'S INSIDE

HR Focus ...K14

Postcards from the Corporate Edge ...K12

7 skills you need to succeed ...K12

What do you do if you think you're about to be laid off?

WORKING WOUNDED
Bob Rosner

DEAR WW: My company is struggling. My boss keeps telling me my job is safe, but I've got a family to support and I'm nervous.

The End Is Near?

You think you're in trouble? Check this. My friend Bobby and I, and our two dates leave our senior prom and get into Bobby's dad's Lincoln Continental. We're cruising down the Jersey Turnpike at about 70 with Bobby at the wheel, when his date turns to me in the backseat and whispers, "Bobby's sleeping. What should I do?"

Preparation

When I recovered from the momentary paralysis caused by watching my previous 17 years pass before my eyes, I suggested rather firmly that she wake him up. Well, consider this your wake-up call. Start by listening to your intuition. (Although your job might have plenty of life left in it, but it never hurts to be prepared.) First, I'd consider cleaning up my resumé and starting to look around for a new job. Second, I'd start preparing financially for the day the paychecks stop. For this I turned to Jane Bryant Quinn's book "Making the Most of Your Money" (Simon and Schuster, 1998). It gives great advice on everything from accident insurance to zero coupon bonds, and I've adapted the following questions from it.

Money matters

Can you pay off your credit cards? If you're like most people, you've got a savings account or money market fund that's earning you interest at the same time that you're paying interest on credit cards. Let's do the numbers. Your savings are a plus three percent and your debt is a minus 16 percent. Membership may have its privileges, but losing 13 percent on your hard-earned bucks shouldn't be one of them. Pay off your credit cards!

Can you keep your hands off your retirement savings? Tax deferred savings charge a 10 percent penalty for early withdrawals. It's cheaper than the 13 percent you're losing on your credit cards, but compromises your future. And given the current trends, the last thing you want is to trust your whole retirement to Social Security.

Can you reduce your spending?.Eliminate all unnecessary spending and take a 10 percent across the board budget cut. You'll maintain much of your present lifestyle while increasing the amount you save.

Can you start a home-equity line of credit? There's an old rule of banking: Don't loan money to anyone who really needs it. But you can make an exception for yourself. Apply for a home-equity line of credit before you get laid off and, although you won't be laughing all the way to the bank, at least you'll still be able to make withdrawals when you get there.

As you can guess from the fact that I'm here to write this, some less than tender jiggling finally woke Bobby up. Jiggle your finances a bit by following Ms Bryant's tips, and you too should be able to stay on the road to recovery.

Poll

Here are the results of the recent workingwounded.com poll: What would you do if you suspected you're going to be laid off?

—Convince yourself otherwise, 2 percent

—Save more money, 12.5 percent

—Look for a job, 85.4 percent

Our winning strategy for when you think you may be about to be laid off comes from J.P. in Gainesville, FL. "Network, network, network. And to be sure that you will still be able to find those business contacts if the axe falls suddenly, plan ahead by making a copy of your Rolodex. The people who know and love your work are the best source for references and referrals.

But don't do anything that could be construed as stealing confidential information. You don't want to be jobless and facing a lawsuit."

(Mr. Rosner is the author of "The Boss's Survival Guide," McGraw Hill 2001, and "Working Wounded," Warner 2000, a speaker and founder of the award-winning Working Wounded.com and Retention Evangelist.com. He is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. Email him at bob@workingwounded.com.*)*

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPHANIE BRAVO

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

It's all in the heart

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

ONE day, more than 25 years ago, an officemate asked me where I lunched as she missed me in the canteen. I said I skipped lunch because I wasn't hungry so "*Nagsimba na lang ako.*" In our culture, that would translate to "I went to church." Thus, another officemate who liked doing her novenas during lunch break quipped: "*Anong nagsimba? Nakita kitang nakaupo sa bato sa tabing dagat eh!*" ("What do you mean you went to church? I saw you sitting on a rock by the sea!") She was right, but so was I. But I felt I needed to elucidate my point—and so my audience of three heard something like this:

While we need to pray in community (as at Sunday mass inside a sacred structure called a church), we may also pray anytime anywhere. For what is prayer, essentially and ultimately, but being one with the Father? And since God is everywhere, one can be united with God anywhere. Jesus is the supreme example of this kind of prayer. He would leave everyone and everything behind, "go up to the mountains to pray...to be one with the Father." That's how He would recharge. How do you suppose He carried on making the blind see, casting demons out of the possessed, teaching and feeding multitudes if He didn't surrender to the Father?

Examine The Lord's Prayer closely—you'll see that it's but one quiet and empowering act of surrender to the Father. As Jesus sought union with the Father while maybe lying upon the sand, sitting by an olive tree, or kneeling beside a great rock, so can we, today, offer ourselves to the Father even during office hours, facing the tools of our trade, anywhere. You see, it's all in the heart.

(Email the author at avemaria@csi.com.ph*)*

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPHANIE BRAVO

Gospel Mt. 6:7-13

In praying, do not babble like the pagans, who think that they will be heard because of their many words..."This is how you are to pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name..

Praying is loving

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

ONE day, a hard working farmer was stuck on the road on his way back home, until it was dark. He began to worry about not being able to say his evening prayers very well as he was used to do. Anxious about what to pray, he looked up to heaven and said, "Lord God, I am sorry that I will not be able to say the beautiful prayers from my prayer book because it's at home and my memory is so poor that I can not recall the prayers. Lord, may I just recite every letter of the alphabet and I leave it to You to form the words that will please You?" Having said so, the farmer felt he had said one of the best prayers so far in his life.

We may be stuck with our work and be too tired to say a prayer but we can still pray the way Jesus taught us—to pray from and with the heart—by lifting our minds to God and offering to Him our work itself, the fatigue we feel and the worries and anxieties we suffer in the workplace. Jesus shows us a God who is a Father, Who knows us perfectly well and understands completely our situation. He is a God so loving and merciful that we need not worry at all about what we say to Him our how we say it. He is a God who sees the deep yearnings of our hearts more than the words uttered by our lips. He is a loving God who desires to receive our love for him, too!

Genuine prayer is our love relationship with God. We don't love God only by words—saying prayers—but we love Him also by deeds, doing our work in love and with love for God, our Father.

(Email the author at mfvg@skyinet.net*)*

sunday INQUIRER magazine
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE
July 1

Joe Salazar's Grand Designs

By Thelma Sioson-San Juan
Photographs by Bobot Meru
Fashion photographs
courtesy of Metro Magazine

A brush with cancer last year spurred the renowned fashion designer to search for a deeper meaning to his life and work. Next month, a haute couture retrospective will allow a long, stunning look at one of Philippine fashion's most stellar careers

N[illegible] in February last [illegible] Salazar was br[illegible] his teeth and clea[illegible] he acci-de[illegible] poked his throat. [illegible] which h[illegible]ttle. He looked closer, there was a lump. [illegible]opsy was done. The growth [illegible] malignant. Joe [illegible] stop with one diagnosis. He consulted other [illegible]tors who told him the same thing.

"At first I couldn't believe it," he said. "I don't [illegible]nt it. Marami pang kulang na dapat gawin. *(There's still so much to be done.) I began looking for ways to live. Positive thinking. Herbal. I feared death.* Ayoko muna. *That was when I realized what I lacked in life.* Gusto kong mabuhay nang may sinasabi." *(I wanted to live a meaningful life.)*

When Joe talks today about his brush with cancer last year, he's calm, and sounds so casual that it would feel odd listening to him if you didn't know him. But then you realize that's so Joe—calm, reticent, softspoken. He neither embellishes his speech nor masks his expression. He is simple and direct, but not confrontational.

Shortly after the tests, he underwent radiation therapy until August last year. Friends, particularly Ben Chan of Bench, helped see him through. Ben brought him to Hong Kong for alternative treatment. The two have been friends since 1975, with Ben producing Joe's gala show in 1979; he hasn't had a one-man show since.

For a time Joe had a hard time speaking, and barely ate. After about a year, however, he seems to have recovered. Ironic as it may seem, Joe has never been

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Theater director Ralph B. Peña remembers the long, colorful road from UP Diliman to Manhattan, and reveals what life is like for a Filipino-American artist

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Theater Tales

By Antonio Salac-Santos

Bart's Journey

WYG TYSMANS

"I JUST came from a meeting of PAWS (that's the Philippine Animal Welfare Society) and we sat through a documentary of animal cruelty—I swear I could turn vegetarian!" Bart Guingona says, in between bites of barbecued gluten (absolutely meat-free), in a restaurant somewhere in Scout Tuazon, appropriately called Greens. Appropriately, you guessed it, vegetarian. It had taken a couple of weeks trying to get Bart to sit awhile for this story.

Would you say he's all over the place? In a positive sense, yes. PAWS is just one of his several "involvements" at the moment. Getting the Animal Welfare Act implemented in a "meaningful rather than cosmetic way" would be one of his many preoccupations.

One of his major passions these days is spearheading (as organization president, no less) the pagbabago@pilipinas foundation's "Reflection on Leadership"—a project that seeks to understand the nature of, well, leadership in this country of ours. With the 2004 presidential election year just a few nightmares away, nothing could be more timely.

The national congress of p@p was held recently, and being the foundation's leader, Bart had to participate in a traveling exhibit cum roundtable discussion on the Mindanao conflict, in partnership with the Cultural Center of the Philippines. While, whew, at the same time keeping an eye on a concert in the works to launch the "*Pagbabago*" CD mid-August.

As an artist, he gets to produce and direct a musical, "The Last Five Years," with Audie Gemora and Menchu Lauchengco Yulo. That's in-between rehearsals for a production of "New Yorker in Tondo" slated for an end-of-July run in Cebu.

The accomplished actor and director, who's neck-deep in projects that make a difference, has learned that it's easier to go through life when you travel light

His waking hours, sporadically spiked with brewed coffee ("But only until 3 p.m., please, or else I toss and turn, sleepless and unsettled, in the early morning hours!"), also demand that he continue to throw ideas and concepts and manage positive energies towards the publication of a book about "the little things we can do for our country." And then there's this project on transparency and accountability coordinated with the office of his uncle, vice president Teofisto Guingona, where he has chosen to stay because it would be the most patriotic thing at the moment—"amidst the slime and grime, the intrigues and backstabbing in the snake pit!"

Bart slowly takes in a deep, long breath and says, "How do I survive it all? You'll never believe this, but I'm kept sane by my reading of 'The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying.' "

Okay, we tease, so is that what Bart Guingona and Richard Gere have in common? Apart from this worldly, humane and patriotic causes?

"I used to be obsessed with recognition. You know, all that ego of being recognized for whatever it is you're doing at the moment... Whether it's for animal rights, nature conservation or a country's corruption. Especially when I was much younger, I'd seek out the applause, bask in the light of having done this, or done that—until much later the wings of wisdom quietly, unbidded, sat on my shoulders, whispering, 'You do things because you want to. For yourself.' Now if that is not enlightenment, I don't know what is!"

Appropriately enough, Bart takes time to work with Elán editor Marge Enriquez on her dance event called "Dancing in the Light," which will be shown this Thursday, July 17 at Onstage Greenbelt. The script is based on the book "Companion of God" by international lecturer Dadi Janki.

Bart got excerpts from the book and turned them into a route toward self-awareness, a journey in life. The quest is looking for something that was ours all along.

"The journey starts with dealing with your demons in order to deal with the world. The journey is from inside, examining yourself, your relationship with others and finally being at peace with yourself so you can deal with the world. The beauty of it is that in order for you to be fully realized, you must consume your ego to the larger world. The journey starts with the emotions of self-recrimination, fear, anger. In the end you only get peace if you find peace by being merciful to yourself. When you come to terms with yourself, only then can you make peace with the world," Bart explains.

The character (Marge E) grows through a transformation process as she talks to her conscience, flashed on the video wall.

"We used the words of Dadi Janki to make it more personal. That's what I keep saying about art; it only becomes salient and electrifying if you bring it down to a personal truth. What we've done is textured it. She is fighting with herself. Then the character listens to her conscience and begins to find wisdom. Finally, she has become so complete that she can talk (or rather dance) wisdom to everyone."

Produced by Higher Ground, this multi-media show is actually a high-powered collaboration with luminaries like Douglas Nierras for choreography, Oddie Espiritu of AVI Media for video, Ernest Santiago for creative direction, Impy Pilapil for sets, Ian Monsod and Noel Zarate for music, Joe Salazar for costumes, and Patrick Rosas for make-up.

Bart hopes that people will leave the theater realizing that they can all cover the ground of their own journey more effectively if they chose to travel light.

It is this sense of spirituality that pervades Bart's persona. "You know what? I used to think self-respect was something you demanded from people. Or expect from others. Later on, I found out that like love, peace, joy, all you had to do was radiate it from within! And wouldn't this world be a better, brighter place if everyone basked in the light of radiance of everyone else?"

Amen. Q

"Dancing in the Light" will be shown on July 17, 6 pm at Onstage Greenbelt. For details, contact 0916-6244697.

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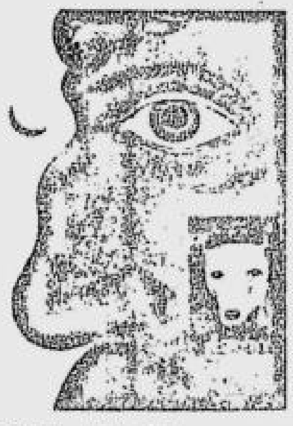

"KARA," Raul Lebajo's 20th one-man exhibition, where he creates notable works with a series of close-up and portraits of Nature's surreal inhabitants. On view at the Galleria Duemila, 4/L Bldg. A of SM Megamall, Pasig City from July 15 to August 3. For inquiries, call Lorie Chan or Ina Fajardo at 831-9990. *For more of This Week, see page 7*

Two Nudes

She was cruelest to me in April, when the monsoon stifled
The little devotion left between us. I blame
The monsoon, not her. Coasting southwest
From Sarawak the air reeks of cardamom,
Crab roe, corpses. Soldiers are bombing Pikit,
Three thousand Moslem refugees pour into
The Christian churches. She doesn't see the irony of it,
How we always wind up nursing the ones
We wound the most. We make love infrequently now,
Once a month if ever. She lies in bed
Like my weather-beaten republic, too sad to respond
To how badly I touch her, to how too fast or too slow
I come. You might think I'm making this up,
But this morning she told me, Money
Is the most beautiful object in the world.
She's looking for something to believe in,
Beyond the obvious that's too bright, too close
To see. Dear Eric, he writes, I run to you
Only when I'm on the verge of disintegrating.
Summer in the tropics is all Lent, all repentance
And resurrection, and I'm sick of it. She loves to stick her thumbs
Into the scabbed stigmata of my hands. I feel no pain.
She tells me war is inescapable. You must bomb
A few towns if you want peace. If we have children,
They will be among the nine out of ten
Who will never speak in the future tense.
For some reason she finds this comforting.
When she lies like this, fetal, one arm stretched out
To touch my face, she reminds me of the crook
Of the northern tip of Sulawesi. She showed it once to me
On a map: a jungle island almost human in form,
Teeming with terror, incredibly poor.

Eric Gamalinda

A terno of embroidery and exquisite beadwork, made for Irene Marcos Araneta

busier. His clientele isn't only burgeoning, he's also done practically all the high-profile celebrity events of the past year, from the weddings of President Arroyo's sons to KC Concepcion's debut.

"Kung kailan pa ako nagkasakit" *(And I had to get sick now), he told me, looking amused at the business upswing at a time when he wasn't in the pink of health. We stood at the door of his atelier now cramped with sewers, sewing machines and mannequins. That day he was rushing KC's debut gown, Kakai Manotok's bridal gown and a tycoon's daughter's wedding gown. I could see that through all these deadlines, he was avoiding stress because he didn't want his health to fail again. Thank God, Joe has been well this year.*

He's had a drastic change of lifestyle—no more late nights.

It was while talking about his past works one late afternoon in his Malate home/atelier that I thought of staging Metro Magazine's Joe Salazar retrospective exhibit. His exhibit should kick off a series of retrospective exhibits of Philippine haute couture. It's about time. I believe that the fine work of Filipino fashion designers shouldn't just come and go. Their art should give today's generation and the next a pride of heritage. More than that, they, particularly design students, should have access to the works of the country's foremost designers so that they could be aware of and learn from them.

We've had decades of fashion hype and marketing. It's about time that fashion design be treated for what it is—serious craft, genuine art.

Salazar belongs to the batch of Filipino fashion designers that produced the most prolific era in contemporary Philippine fashion. They emerged from apprenticeship in the '70s and were thrown into the daily luncheon fashion show circuit sponsored by competing five-star hotels, namely Hyatt and Manila Hilton. These regular venues became an arena, with these young fashion designers becoming like gladiators before a demanding, if not blood-thirsty, audience. This competition coaxed their creativity and produced the clientele that would be the foundation of fashion market in the country.

In the '70s began the golden era of Philippine fashion. Designers like Salazar, Ernest Santiago, Gang Gomez, Inno Sotto, Auggie Cordero, and ready-to-wear pioneers Larrie Silva and Rusty Lopez tried to outdo each other in starting trends, winning rave reviews for their collections, wooing the most stylish women to be their clients, and even molding young women into models. This batch of designers was determined to follow in the footsteps of fashion institutions Ramon Valera, Pitoy Moreno, Ben Farrales, Aureo Alonso, and Christian Espiritu, who preceded Salazar in designing Imelda Marcos' ternos.

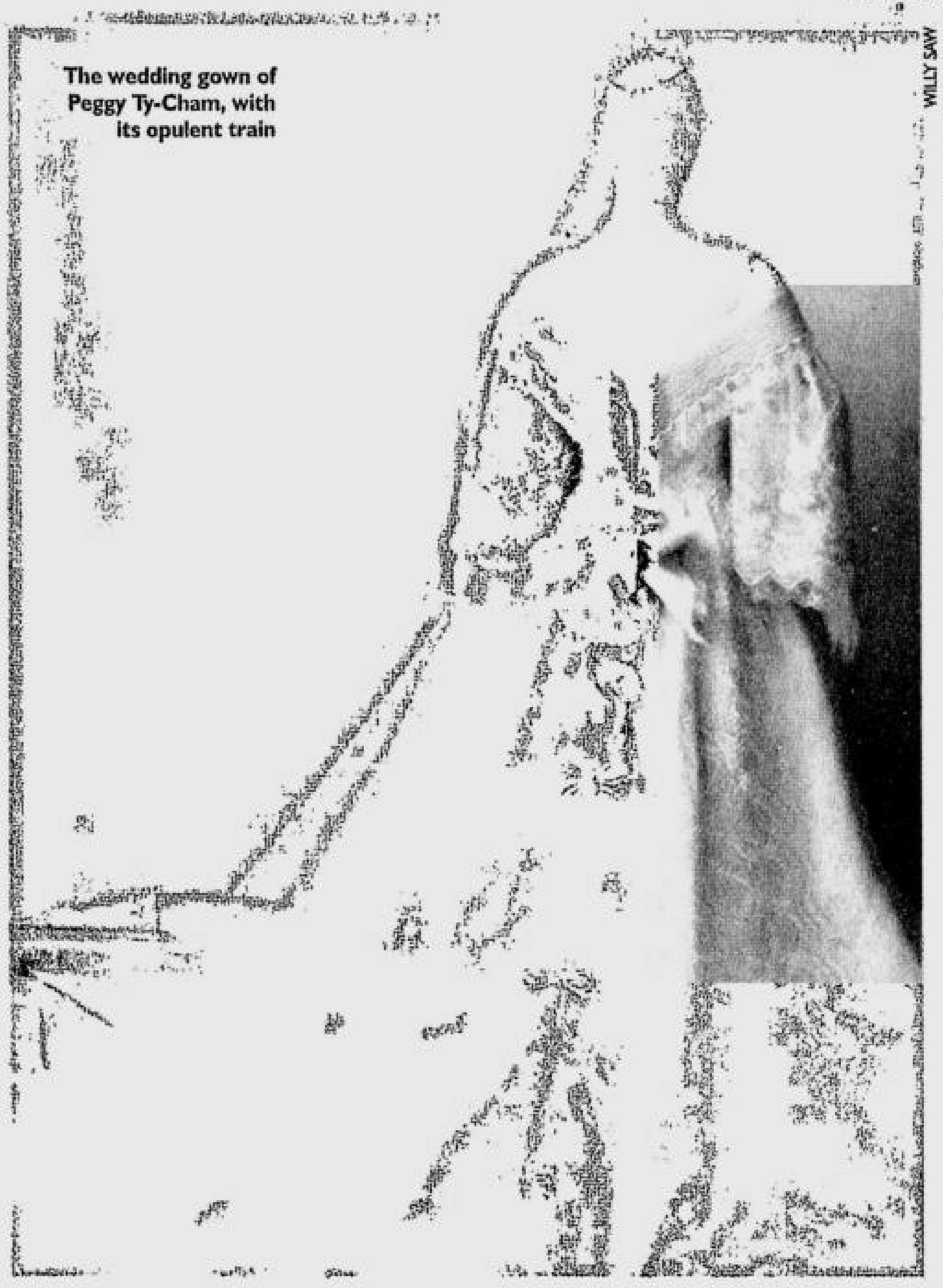
Philippine fashion design at that time burst with creative output in formal and casual wear. The designers honed their craft in clothes construction, intricate detailing, embroidery and other ingenious methods of ornamentation. They turned out a whole gamut of looks, from mannish tailoring to ultra-feminine evening gowns. Also, Philippine ready-to-wear was beginning to take shape in that era.

Salazar was a product of that era. Since these designers surfaced in the '70s they hit the ground running, so to speak, and have not paused since.

That's why a retrospective exhibit is a significant development. A review and showcase of their works is important.

As I wrote in Metro, Salazar is a "pillar of Philippine haute couture. His distinction is his ability to marry craftsmanship with design. Even in an industry noted for its exquisite craftsmanship, Joe is a cut above the rest not only for the painstaking quality of his craft but also for the range of his experimentation. As the couturier of Imelda Marcos from 1979 to 1986, he had both the privilege and challenge of experimenting with all kinds of materials and crafts, from beading, embroidery to appliqué and hand-painting.

Detail from a pleated chartreuse gown made for Imee Marcos



The wedding gown of Peggy Ty-Cham, with its opulent train

WILLY SAW

His atelier became a veritable fashion laboratory churning out all manner and levels of Philippine design that Imelda Marcos wanted to project to the world. And given the killer schedules of his power clientele, he did these gowns and formal wear within deadlines. For years, he did at least 10 ternos a month for the then First Lady. He had to yield quantity in inscrutable quality—the rest of the world was watching. Joe's artistry was put to the test in a way that no other designer's was at that time."

Metro Magazine's Joe Salazar Retrospective Exhibit will run for two weeks starting August 7 at the ELJ Communication Center (ABS-CBN building), Eugenio Lopez Ave., Quezon City, and will showcase many of his milestone creations displayed on mannequins for all to see and appreciate.

Excerpts from SIM's interview with him:

SIM: At what point do you think you are in your career now?

JOE SALAZAR: In the period of enjoying the fruits of my labor. Everything seems to be falling into place. Everybody's helping me. It's the right time for me to share with the younger generation my skills, like through this exhibit.

SIM: Have you noticed a change in your clientele?

JS: For the better. The clients are saying, *"Ikaw na ang bahala"* (It's up to you). Before, they would interfere. Now there seems to be full trust in me the moment they enter the shop. It's the peak of maturity level. Now I just have to be consistent. Keep on learning from my mistakes.

SIM: How do you define your style now?

JS: I'm veering towards softness of line. Even in terms of material, I'm handling softer material—pure silk, not too much polyester which is easier to handle. Pure silk is easy to wrinkle, hard to sew. If you handle it well, you're there.

SIM: How would you compare Philippine fashion now and then?

JS: We're more practical now, more relaxed especially in mix-matching.

SIM: How do you see the young designers' works?

JS: Looking at their fashion shows, they're still at that stage of what I went through. They have passion, patience, love of profession.

SIM: How did you cope with cancer?

JS: *Ayoko muna,* I told myself. *Natatakot ako.* (I'm afraid.) I prayed to God to give me more time. I wanted to live. That's when I saw what was lacking in my life. You have to live a meaningful life. *Kung hindi parang nabuhay ka ng bale wala.* (If not, it's like your life was worth nothing.) When I got well I became more focused on the job. The passion became more intense.

I want fashion history to remember me not only as being talented, but also honorable, and with something to share with the younger ones. That's the fulfillment of every human being.

Stylewatch

By Joy Rojas

Her Purse Love

For lovely young model and magazine fashion assistant Amina Aranaz, bags are a family obsession—one that she's happy to inherit, and inject with a twist all her own

ROGER CARPIO

AT 12, she owned a Gucci binocular body bag with a matching wallet that she recently started using again. At 23, it's a white leather Furla bag with a shape reminiscent of the classy Hermés Birkin that is the current apple of her eye. Apparently, not just any basic black bag will do for Amina Aranaz, whose personal collection at last inventory

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Movers and Shakers

By Angelina G. Goloy

The Lady is a Chief

ROGER CARPIO

Chief Public Attorney Persida Acosta was inspired by her life experiences to become the poor man's lawyer. Now, as an Asian Public Intellectual, she's taking the crusade for free legal aid crusade to a regional forum

YEARS before Persida V. Rueda-Acosta became a lawyer, her parents suffered the consequences of the fraudulent acts of realty agents. Being of humble means, they were assisted by a lawyer from the Public Attorney's Office (PAO).

Since she became a lawyer in 1990 (placing fourth in the 1989 bar exams), Acosta has been "passing on the kindness of that PAO lawyer" to every needy client she has served. Free legal aid is the touchstone of her personal and professional life, says "Chief," who, as chief public attorney, manages the biggest law office in the country. Legal aid, she believes, is one of the major tools to protect human rights.

Now she is taking her crusade to a bigger forum. As one of the latest recipients of The Nippon Foundation Fellowships for Asian Public Intellectuals (API), Acosta will embark on a research project on free legal aid. The fellowship, conducted in partnership with the Ateneo de Manila University School of Social Sciences, seeks to build a pool of individuals who can articulate the common concerns of the region and propose creative solutions.

The other fellows for 2003-2004 are Isagani Antonio F. Yuzon, Doram T. Dumalagan, Danilo Francisco M. Reyes, Raquel Pastores-Corro and Carlo Irwin A. Panelo. They will carry out their proposed research or professional activity in any of the four other countries where the program is conducted—Japan, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia—then present the results to the concerned agencies or organizations.

Acosta will do a comparative study of the free legal aid systems of Japan, Thailand, and the Philippines and their responsiveness to human rights issues in the light of their cultural, political, social and economic orientations. She hopes to push reforms in the Philippine legal aid system and promote cooperation between governments, persuading them, as well as law-making bodies, to formulate pro-human rights policies and adopt measures to lessen social and economic inequalities.

"Hopefully my research would serve as catalyst not only for more exposure to legal aid and human rights but more importantly, for an overflowing support from all over Asia," says Acosta. "Human rights offenses spill over national borders."

Whenever someone's human right is violated, something at the core of that person's being is destroyed, she laments, adding that the poor are most vulnerable to exploitation and oppression. Ironically, Acosta attracted national attention when she handled the defense of a man who was once the most powerful official of the land, Joseph Estrada.

She concedes that it was her most challenging assignment, not only because of the case itself and the personality involved, but also because of the public's perception about her and her team as the Sandiganbayan-appointed official counsels of the former president.

"We were maligned and subjected to name-calling," she recalls. "They called us *ampaw, siopao, espiya,* words that belittled our capacity and questioned our competence and integrity."

But Acosta believes that as the trial progressed, she and her team were able to acquit themselves, proving their worth as officers of the court. Presenting expert witnesses, they argued that former President Estrada had the right to be treated by a doctor of his own choice and in a hospital that he trusted.

"We were able to prove our independence," she says, taking the opportunity to acknowledge the 1,000 public attorneys and their 700 staff nationwide who are "just as deserving of the air time and printed space that we got" during the trial. "I would like to think that it was not I, but the Public Attorney's Office itself and all of its lawyers that gained national prominence. They and their staff have been working with excellence and utmost dedication for the indigent clients of the PAO."

Wife to lawyer Benedicto Acosta Jr. and mother to Kyla Gethsemane, 10, and Kamilla Persida, 5, "Chief" also devotes part of her time to the academe and the broadcast media. She teaches Persons and Family Relations and handles Civil Law Review I and Criminal Law II at the University of the East College of Law. She also dispenses free legal advice on the air through dzRH's *"Tulong Katarungan"* that airs on Sundays from 11 a.m. to noon, Radyo ng Bayan's "Pilipinas, Pilipinas" (Sundays, 6:30 p.m.), Melo Acuña's program on Radio Veritas (weekdays, 5-6 p.m.), dzME's *"Ano'ng Say Mo,* Attorney?" (MWF, 2:45-3 p.m.) and Teena Clemente's program on dwDD (MWF, 4 p.m.).

From where she sits, Acosta sees disunity as the nation's most urgent problem. Filipinos are such a fragmented race, she says, that "unity" seems to be alien to us. Still, she is optimistic that the *bayanihan* system in the countryside and the "people power" phenomenon in the cities only need to be harnessed and rechanneled toward a noble cause.

This is where public intellectuals can make a difference. In his remarks at the API fellowships awarding ceremony, Prof. Randolf David further characterized public intellectuals—academics, mass media professionals, artists, NGO activists and others with moral authority—as consistently thinking in terms of alternatives. "They define these alternatives before their chosen publics, they make demands on the powerful to enact alternative policies, and they enrich politics by their timely intervention."

For Acosta, it all begins by her becoming "an effective instrument of enlightenment, justice, unity and peace—for in the service of my fellowmen and obedience to my God do I live."

The API offices are at the Center for Community Services Bldg., Social Development Complex, Ateneo de Manila University, tel. No. 426-6001 loc. 5205.

Her Purse

...from page 3

numbered 300-plus. Professing a weakness for authentic vintage bags, the kinds that evoke history, romance, character and a lady-like charm, Amina often catches herself staring at her prized possessions which have begun to encroach themselves in spaces outside her already cramped bedroom. "It really is an art," avers Amina, whose quirky creations under the family's long-time label Aranaz are found in The Black Shop, Anonymous and select seasonal bazaars. "Especially when they put so much work into it. It's amazing how some bags can still look so fresh and timeless after so many years."

The middle of three kids (elder brother Miguel is involved in the entrepreneurial side of the business, and younger sister Rosanna already markets her own products—girlish hair wraps in their own little bags), Amina revealed an early inclination towards the arts. A serious ballerina for 12 years, she was a member of Dance Center Philippines until college, when her mentor Sonia Domingo closed the school and transferred to the United States. Years later, the Interdisciplinary Studies graduate from Ateneo de Manila University would find professional use for her love for shopping: as Fashion and Beauty Assistant for Chalk Magazine, her responsibilities include sourcing items for a shoot, helping style pictorials, and writing a makeover column for college readers. Easy on the eyes, the slim and statuesque mestiza has even been seen in fashion spreads, as well as TV ads for Globe, Sun Cellular, Sunsilk and SMB. But with the family's factory as her playground, making bags herself proved to be second nature.

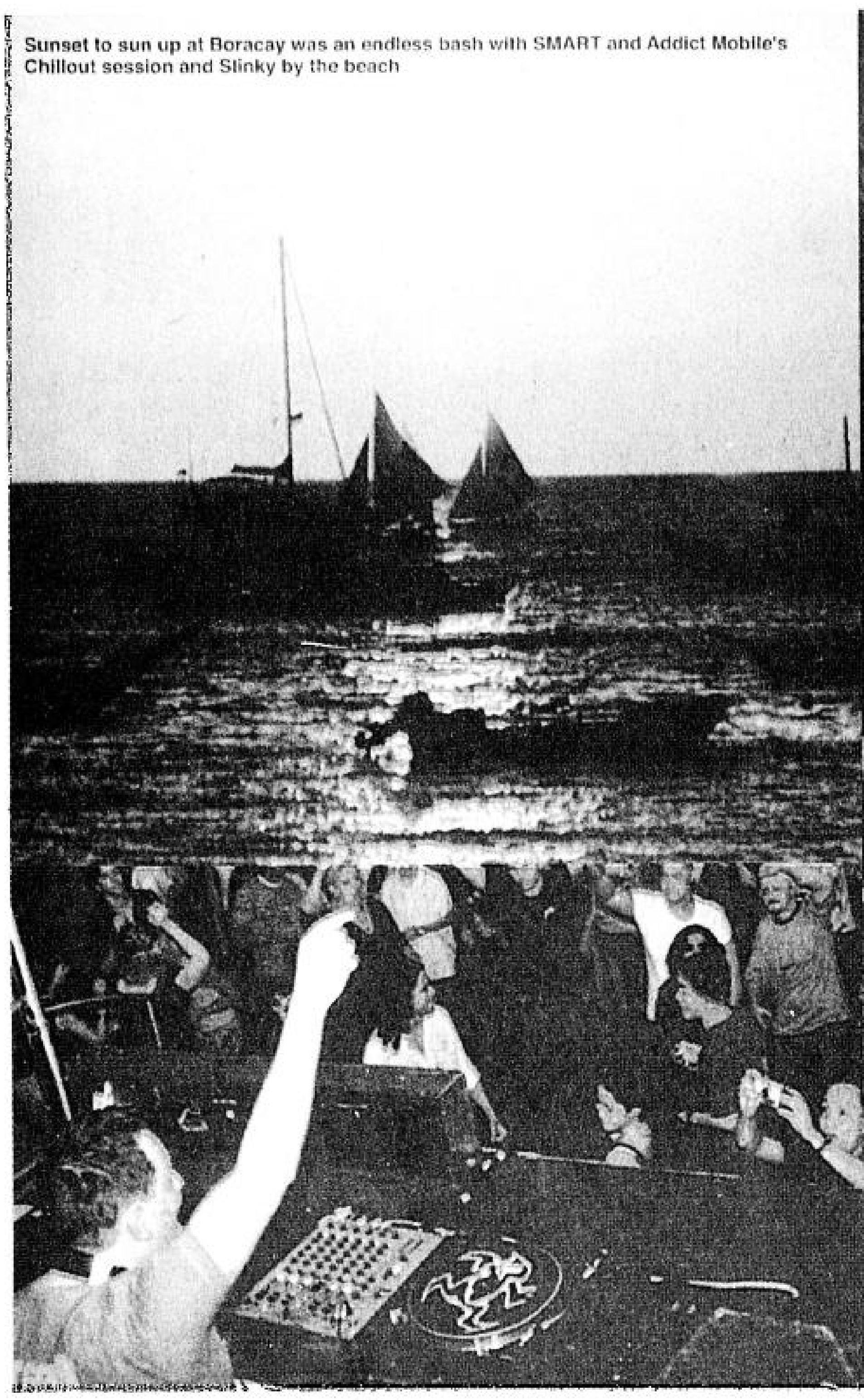
As a child, Amina was encouraged to imagine bag designs based solely on available materials. Such remains Amina's creative process today: Faced with excess macramé and strips of black leather, she came up with a pretty handbag which sold like proverbial hotcakes at The Black Shop. Blending modern materials like suede and corduroy with coco shells, mother of pearl, raffia and other indigenous elements, Amina's designs are definitely more urban that the native ones her mom Becky creates for export purposes. Still, this daughter is quick to give credit where credit is due. "She influenced me a lot," says Amina of her mother who founded the thriving business over 20 years ago. "We both like really intricate details, special handiwork and we're both very feminine."

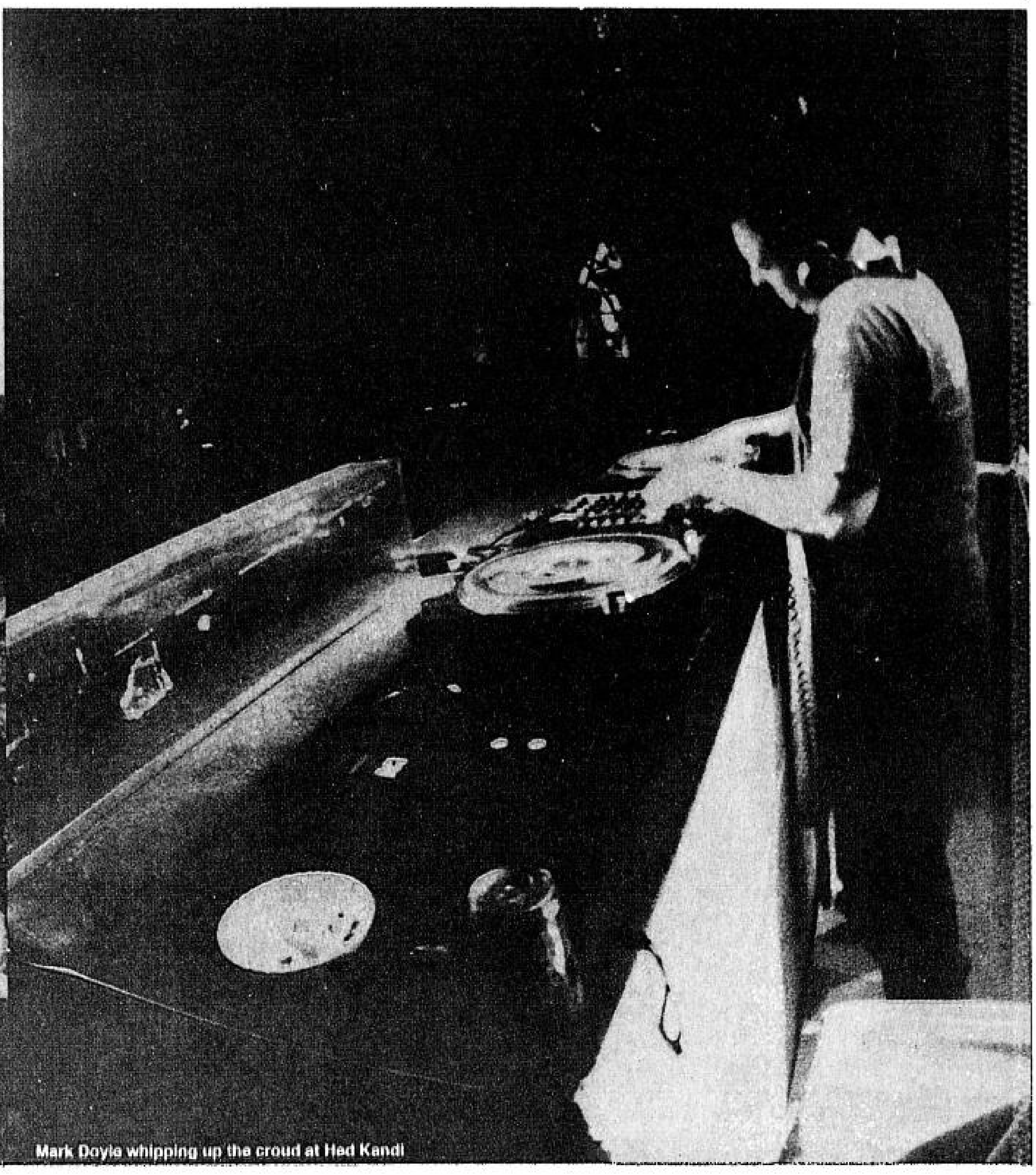
Thus, while Becky's following remains largely foreign (she continues to manufacture bags for DKNY, Anne Klein, Adrienne Vittadini, Cynthia Rowley, and Nicole Miller), Amina is attracting an impressive clientele of her own. KC Concepcion has been spotted with an Aranaz bag, as has her Megastar mom Sharon Cuneta, who snapped up a bag at the Aranaz stall in a bazaar. Lucy Torres makes it a point to drop by the Aranaz residence for a firsthand look at the latest merchandise. "And complete strangers have come up to me after they get my number from a friend whom they saw wearing my bag at a party or in the mall," enthuses Amina. "It's a nice high." Obviously, this designer is not alone in the habit of planning her wardrobe around the bag she has chosen to use for the day. "They do offer a different charm," she observes of her handmade, one-of-a-kind creations. "A lot of Filipinas still think of a bag for its function, but more than just something to put their things in, it's also become an important accessory, a fashion statement."

Filipinas then should be flocking to the shop that will showcase not only Amina's extensive range of designs, but the fact that "Filipino items can be just as good and fashionable as imported ones." This, however, will have to wait, as the designer is bound for Europe, "hopefully in October," where she will complete a year-long course in Accessories Design. "I really love working with my hands and I make bags mostly out of instinct and feel," says Amina. "So I really want to learn more about the technical side of things."

Plus, there's that irresistible opportunity for this insatiable bag lover to add to her growing collection. More a bargain hunter than a brand-conscious shopper, Amina doesn't mind "spending the whole day making *halungkat* (digging) at a thrift shop just to find the best pieces." Indeed, this is a girl who has held serious discussions with her mom on the merits of a bag for hours on end, while "my dad waits patiently outside the store, eating ice cream!" And let's not forget the time when she tracked down the last piece of a limited edition Botega Venetta in Venice, Italy, only to hold back at the last minute when she realized that its cost in pesos was equivalent to that of a car. "So *hang-gang* look *na lang ako!*" she laughs. "Maybe in the future, like, in 50 years!"

Otherwise, passions run high for this self-confessed bagaholic. Constantly reminded by her mother to "always take care of your bag," the young designer saw the wisdom of these words last summer when she and her family were in Madrid, Spain. Entering the Metro hugging a load of packages, her slim and tiny purse tucked safely under her arm, Amina suddenly felt someone pull at her bag. A man who had his eye on her managed to open the zipper of her bag, but could only go so far "because my mom and I were really screaming at the guy!" exclaims Amina. "Of course, he was Spanish, so I don't know if he understood." When two bag designers pounce on a pickpocket for violating their beloved possessions, you can be sure that he got the point.


Sunset to sun up at Boracay was an endless bash with SMART and Addict Mobile's Chillout session and Slinky by the beach


Mark Doyle whipping up the croud at Hed Kandi

Glamorous Jackie

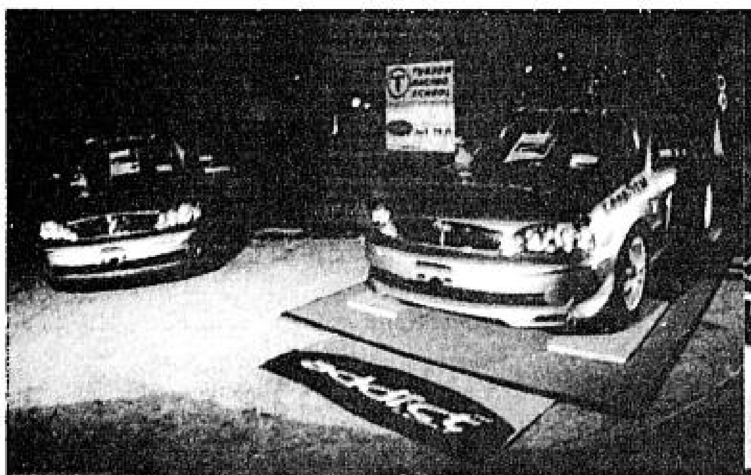
Our Fearless Society Correspondent Reports on the SMART Parties That Were All The Rage!

Well, it's been a magical season of parties, darlings. And we must admit that SMART and Addict Mobile led the way into transforming the chic-y dance scene like never before. Imagine the likes of Slinky, Hed Kendi, Pacha and Cream gracing our lush tropical shores!

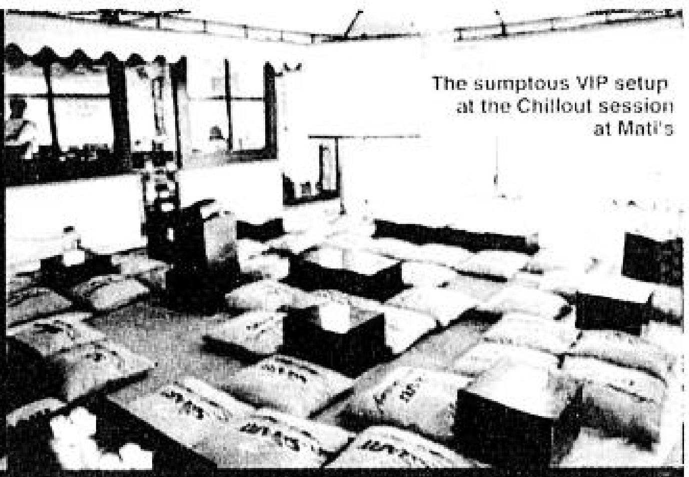
And so here is our collage of a huge season of fabulous fetes, of which Manila or the rest of the country has never seen before. The amazing scenes and set-ups! The Beautiful People! The unbelievable fashions! The music that transports us into another rhythmic realm! Oh my, honey. Come with me and revisit the unmatched party spectacle that was and continues to be the SMART and Addict Mobile bash!

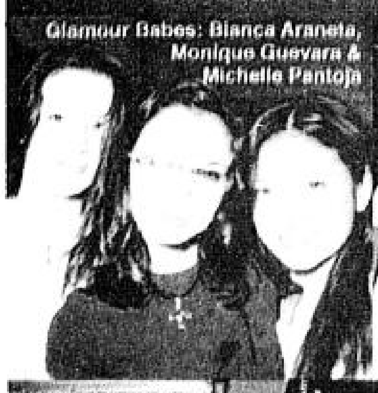
Darlings, you MUST come to the next Addict Mobile bash happening with the triumphant return of Godskitchen on August 2, 2003 at the NBC Tent at the Fort Bonifacio Global City. Be there honey and if I think you look fantabulous enough (I'm sure you will, darlings), we'll snap your pic and make you part of our glam roster.

"Join my glamorous world"

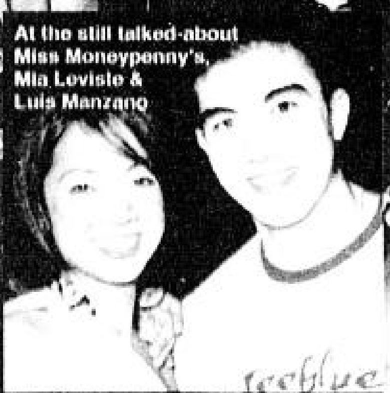


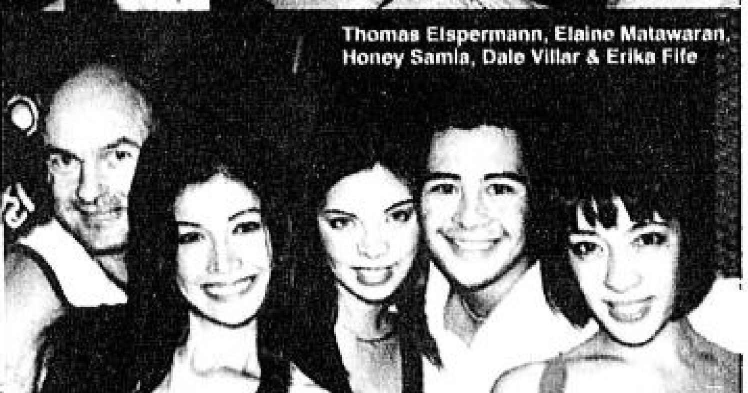
Jay Suarez, Bianca Fernandez, Kat Velayo, Carla Tabuena and Quito Lopez


The sumptous VIP setup at the Chillout session at Mati's


Glamour Babes: Bianca Araneta, Monique Guevara & Michelle Pantoja

Tessa Dragon, Girlie Castro & Anne Matoto


At the still talked-about Miss Moneypenny's, Mia Loviste & Luis Manzano


Thomas Elspermann, Elaine Matawaran, Honey Samia, Dale Villar & Erika Fife

JM Rodriguez & DJ Montano

Vina Morales lights up the room

Top Model Phoem Baranda

The prince of Boracay Juan Elizalde at ARIA

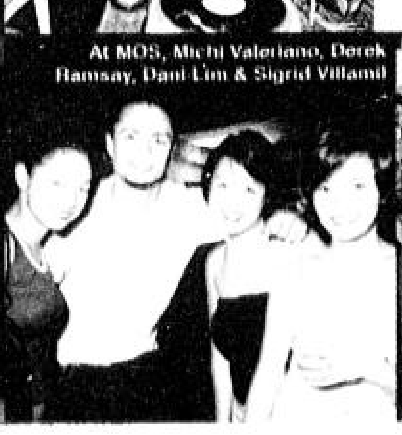
Master of Chillout Anton Ramos Mati

Jackie Forster, TC Cheah & Joanne Quintas Primero at MOS

Greg Martin and his crew!

Anette Coronel, Mano Dario & Tito Manapat

Addict Mobile endorser Paolo Trillo & Jannelle So


At MOS, Michi Valeriano, Derek Ramsay, Dani Lim & Sigrid Villamil

Addict Mobile Girls at Boracay were the hit of Holy Week

Advt.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

First Person

By Ralph B. Peña

Two Worlds, One Stage

CHOOSING a life in the theater comes easy. It's what you do after making the choice that can be a bitch. Strange voices fill your head. How are you going to make money? Who's going to hire you? How many creepy butts will you have to kiss to get the job? Most paralyzing of all: Are you even any good?

For many of us, committing ourselves to the arts is not a solitary act of bravery (or foolishness). Friends and family often become complicit in one's decision to become an artiste and live along the margins. Willingly or not, our immediate circles are sucked into feeding a "hobby" that takes more than it gives. For 99 percent of us, it's a lifetime hand-to-mouth gig. You will borrow money from friends. You will borrow more money from a dwindling number of friends. They will want to get paid. To quiet them and to save your last shred of dignity, you will visit Eloy's to sell your collection of Lacoste shirts for P60.

The biz is rife with stories of quixotic perseverance and compromised wardrobes. We've all earned our scars, and it doesn't take much prodding to get a soldier of the theater to spill battle stories. You see, in the thea-tuh, everyone's an aspiring tragedienne.

PRESS PLAY HERE.

My tragedy begins on a small patch of grass next to the U.P. Lagoon. It's 1980 and a ragtag group of Diliman students led by Chris Millado is putting up a circus-like tent to house a makeshift vaudeville stage. The operative word here is makeshift. The kids are calling themselves Tropang Bodabil, and they're apparently bent on breaking convention by staging a series of political sketches outside the protected confines of the Guerrero Theater. There is a curious mix of bewilderment and resolve in their young eyes. The would-be engineer, lawyer, professor and drag queen are huddled, arguing about the most efficient way to hoist canvas 20 feet above ground. Here's a bit of advice: Nix the would-be lawyer's arguments, graciously dismiss the still-to-be professor's theories, follow the future engineer's blue print, but heed the fully-realized drag queen when she says, "It's the rainy season, *mga low-kah!*" The tent rises like a soufflé, just as delicate, and looking like a small sneeze might send it crashing down. There are other ominous signs. A stagehand is nearly killed when he absent-mindedly picks up a live electric cable while standing on wet sod.

It's opening night. The drag queen is prescient; it's pouring rain. There is ankle-deep water on the ground and 30-mile-an-hour gusts are tugging on closely clutched umbrellas. Readers should please note that these are the conditions inside the tent theater. On the wooden stage, Ogie Juliano is in an embroidered hoop skirt singing "Getting To Know You" from "The King and I" while introducing a map of the Philippines to a grinning image of Uncle Sam. In the wings, Bart Guingona is fussing with his costume and preparing to emcee the Miss Young Multinational Beauty Contest. In one corner, Ariel Valerio is fidgety, anxious about making his debut as Ilokula the Ilocano Dracula. Next to him, Nic Pichay's face has taken on a distant look. Outside the tent a storm rankles a country still in the grips of Martial Law, but inside, the merry mayhem continues. For the next five years, Bodabil (it later morphed into a new group called Peryante) will take its cue from the country's real-life political circus, and spin their brand of biting satire around the unfunny consequences of government corruption and economic malaise.

PRESS FAST FORWARD HERE.

It's 1984. I am in the waiting lounge of the Manila International Airport clutching a one-way ticket to Los Angeles and silently questioning the justice behind the two-piece baggage allowance. How do you cram a life into a pair of Samsonites? I take some comfort in knowing that inside one of my bags is a grungy black headband with a Peryante logo. It's the only tangible evidence of the past four years.

On the eve of a series of performances in Manila with the New York-based Ma-Yi Theater Company, the author remembers the long, colorful road from UP Diliman to Manhattan, and reveals what life is like for a Filipino-American artist

Twenty hours later (17 hours of which I spend crying in the plane's toilet), I am in Irvine, California. For the uninitiated, Irvine is a bucolic landscape of orange groves, BMWs, and chirpy housewives bouncing from malls to Jazzercise classes. Evidently, Dad does not believe in the merits of a multicultural community. Irvine is oh so very white. Think Molly Ringwald movie. Oh, but there's more. Turns out Dad is not only a rabid Republican supporter of Ronald Reagan, he's also the head of a Filipino Rosary Group.

I dye my hair auburn and stop speaking for a year.

PRESS REWIND HERE.

Two months earlier. I am slumped on a chair, sitting across my uncle the Colonel at his Army Intelligence office in Camp Aguinaldo. "What's all this silly nonsense with rallies?" he asked. "And *ano 'tong* theater-theater, they're all *bakla! Ganito na lang*. Why don't you throw a party and take pictures of all your radical friends? We'll pick up the tab."

I leave Camp Aguinaldo in a daze. 1) I have no intention of throwing a witch-hunt party for the Army; 2) I detest those drab military fatigues; and 3) Did he just say *bakla?*

I run home to Kamuning to call my father in California. I tell him about his brother's suggestion. There is only silence. He tells me to pack up and leave for the States. Now.

I line up outside the US Embassy. When I finally get to the Consul's window, I smile brightly and put on my best facsimile of a California accent.

PINOY: Hi ya!

KANO: Why do you want to go to the States?

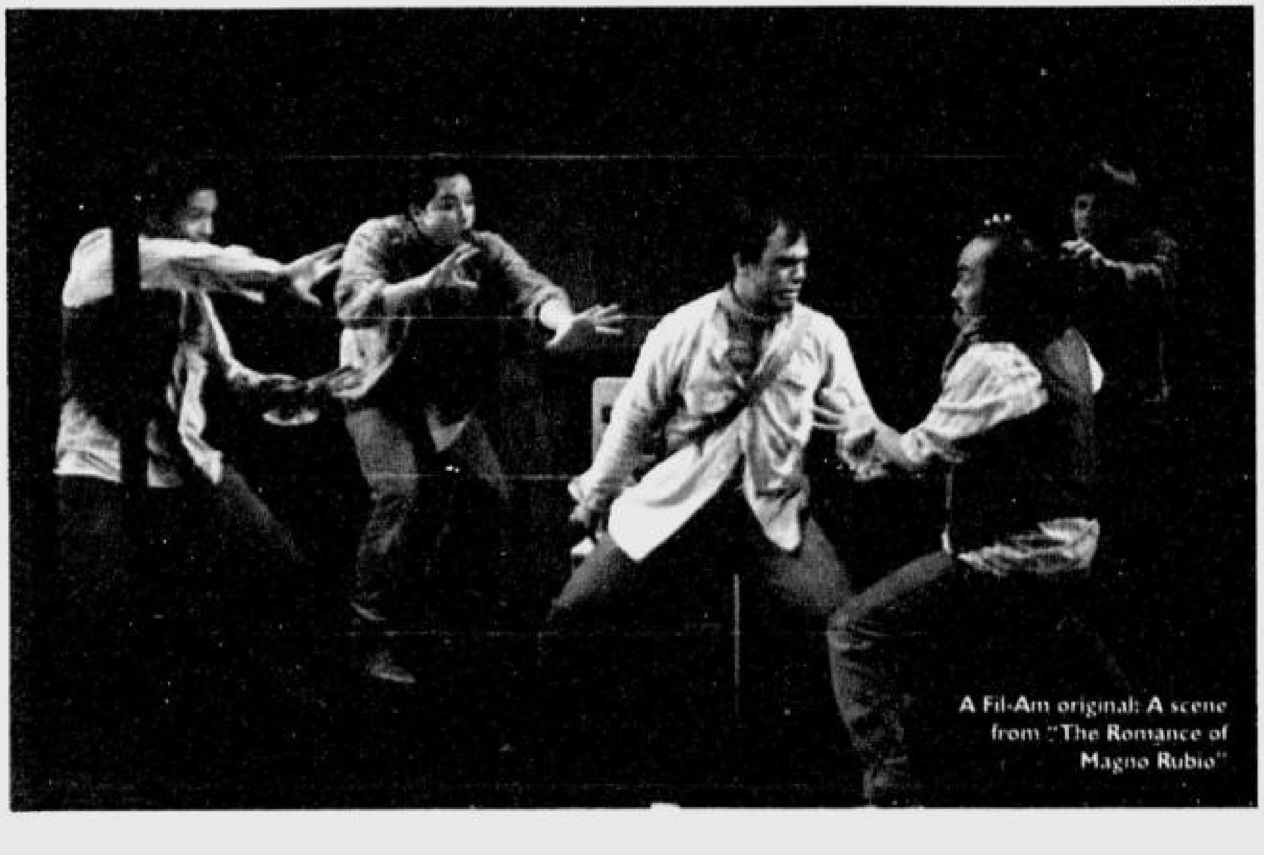
PINOY: Just to visit. I haven't seen my Dad in eight years.

KANO: Sorry. I can't give you a tourist visa. Your father's an American citizen. Have him file a petition.

PINOY: Is that really necessary? I just want to visit.

KANO: Sorry.

LITA PUYAT



A Fil-Am original: A scene from "The Romance of Magno Rubio"

This is where you have to think on your feet. I go for broke.

PINOY: How can you deny me a chance to see my own father? *(tear drops from left eye)*

KANO: I have no guarantee you're coming back.

PINOY: But I am coming back! I...I... I don't want to live in the States.

KANO: Oh?

PINOY: Yeah! Uhuh. I mean, I if I had to choose a place to live, I would choose...uhm...France! *(get the right eye to drop tear on the word "France").*

KANO: *(unsure)* Let me call my supervisor.

SUPER KANO: What's the problem?

PINOY: I want a tourist visa to visit my father. I mean Dad.

SUPER KANO: And how do we know you're coming back?

PINOY: Well... *(think fast)*. Do you know "Cats"?

SUPER KANO: Say what?

PINOY: The musical. By Lloyd Andrew Weber? They're doing it here. I'm going to be a cat! I have to come back for that.

Super Kano looks at Pinoy, looks at his subordinate, looks at the long line of other Pinoys still waiting to be seen, looks at Pinoy again.

SUPER KANO: Come back this afternoon to pick up your passport.

I am a prisoner in Irvine. It takes me five years to figure out how to get myself to New York. It's 1989, and with $600 in my pocket, I buy a $99 one-way ticket to La Guardia Airport. I make arrangements to share a two-bedroom apartment with three friends in a godforsaken section of Brooklyn. It's a cramped set-up on the sixth floor of an elevator-less building that has three missing steps between the 3rd and 4th floor landings. I think of it as my daily leap of faith. My share of the monthly rent is $350. Three hours after landing in New York, I'm down to my last $126.20. Being a practical person, I know I have to find a way to support myself in this *tres* pricey city. I decide to enter the very glamorous and very lucrative field of acting. For the next six months, I am on a daily ration: two cans of Campbell's Tomato Soup ($1.80), a pack of smokes ($4.50), and a copy of the New York Times ($0.25). Once a week, I treat myself to a pint of Haagen Dazs Coffee Ice Cream ($3.85) and an Off-Off Broadway play ($10). Even with my vow of poverty, I need to come up with $600 a month. At night, three or four times a week, I earn my rent money working six-hour shifts in a video rental store in Greenwich Village. I take an extra job processing expense reports at a big law firm. Oh, and yes, after three weeks of doing grand jetéffs to get from the third to the fourth floor, the Brooklyn apartment is destroyed in an early morning fire. I am able to save my small TV and a handful of clothes. My roommates and I flag down a taxi and ask to be dropped off in Manhattan. We each take a block and start knocking on apartment doors until we find a vacant loft above a sewing machine repair shop on 25th Street.

The first three months of auditioning around the city yields nada. On the fourth month, I get a bite. I am offered the role of a dead factory worker who was burned crisp during the Chernobyl nuclear accident, and who has come back as a ghost to sing a postmodern Tech-No-Eulogy to a Ukrainian woman who is slowly losing her hair while reciting the poems of Allen Ginsberg. (Note to all Method actors: channeling the spirit of Lee Strassberg will not help you). The play, aptly titled "Explosions!" is at La Mama. I do a quick inventory of the pros and cons:

(+) I will make my acting debut at La Mama.

(-) I will get paid $100 for six weeks of work.

(-) I will have to quit my job at the video store to rehearse at night.

(-) I will not make my rent for two months.

(-) It will add another $1,000 to my severely abused MasterCard.

(-) I won't be able to afford the Laundromat and I'm running out of clean underwear.

= OKAY, I'LL TAKE IT!!

My New York City debut at La Mama is an interesting flop, but it leads to other jobs: a Chinese merchant, a Japanese S/M dungeon master, a Russian KGB agent, and a FedEx package. No, nothing's wrong with your eyes. I did say FedEx package. (Note to Method actors: Sense Memory isn't going to cut it). I am now an on-again, off again working actor (more off than on). I am also broke and I'm tired of playing roles that mean nothing to me. If I'm going to starve myself for the thea-tuh, it will have to be for something more significant than playing overnight priority mail.

One fateful summer night in The Village, I noticed a familiar figure on a street corner. It's Chris Millado. "Chito is in town," he says. "Why don't we go to his house?"

In the interest of time and to spare you more boring details of life on the skids, I have asked my favorite actors Dame Judi Dench and Melanie Marquez to help move things along.

JUDI: Melanie.

MELANIE: Dame.

JUDI: It's 1989. An enterprising young man, Chito Jao, founds Ma-Yi theater in New York. Their first work is warmly received. This leads to a giddy cocktail of chutzpah—

MELANIE: *Ay! Naman! Akala ko* family entertainment *itish*.

JUDI: —and folly. From a small community theater concern...

MELANIE: They go Off-Broadways! This introduces the young company to the new, exciting world of death. Award!

JUDI: That would be debt, Melanie, and there were no awards for that show, but it put the New York theater community on notice.

MELANIE: Yes. As in, take notice *kayong lahat!*

JUDI: Instead of presenting plays from the Philippines, they focus their energies on original Filipino American works.

A string of original plays follow, like "Woman From the Other Side of the World," "Till Voices Wake Us," "Cinema Verite," and "Cutey, Cutey, Top."

PRESS FAST FORWARD HERE.

We're on the fourth floor of La Mama's rehearsal hall on Great Jones Street. The "Magno Rubio" company leaves for Manila in two weeks, and there are a million things to think about. Loy Arcenas has redesigned the set to fit the CCP's Batute Theater. That means the play will have to be reblocked. Fun! For now, he's busy trying to figure out how to rig a canvas curtain. In one corner of the room, Fabian Obispo is helping the actors remember what it means to sing and harmonize. One of the actors tasked with playing a guitar is suffering from amnesia; he doesn't seem to know how to play the instrument. Fun! At one table, Jorge Ortoll is going over flight arrangements while outside, union officials from Actor's Equity are waiting to speak to the cast to warn them about performing outside the protection of a standard contract. This is familiar territory. Shhh. I'll tell you a secret. It only looks like it's chaotic, but what's really happening is the necessary step of tuning everybody into the same frequency. Sure! If you keep saying that often enough, it might actually happen. I quietly remind myself that we've only raised half of the amount we need for the tour. Outside, heavy dark clouds are planning an assault.

Twenty-three years after that wispy tent went up at the U.P. Lagoon, the circus continues.

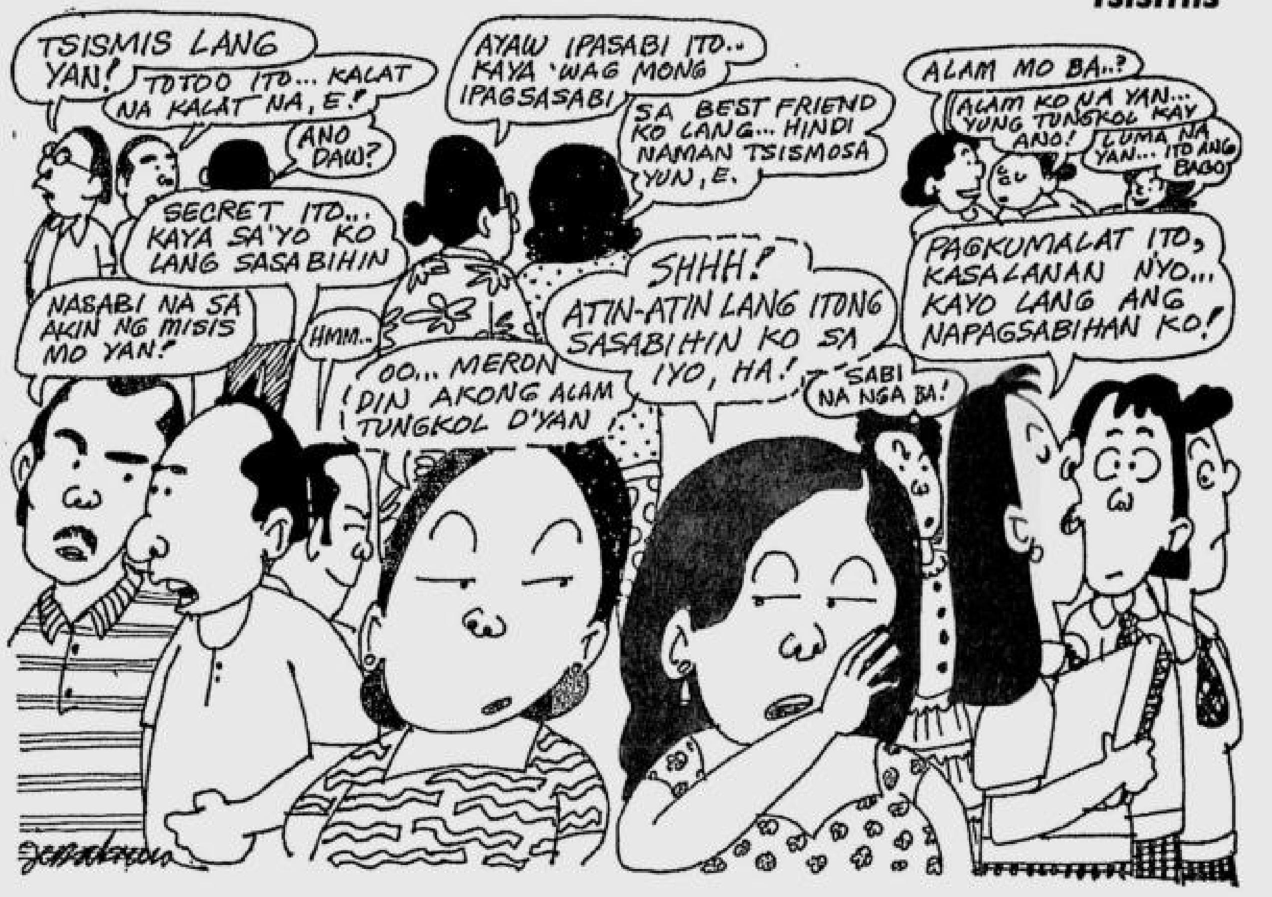
Ralph B. Peña is the Artistic Director of Ma-Yi Theater Company. He resides in New York City.

"The Romance of Magno Rubio" goes onstage at the Tanghalang Huseng Batute of the Cultural Center of the Philippines July 16 to 27, as part of the Sangandaan 2003 Festival.

Pinoy Nga

By Jess Abrera

Tsismis


TSISMIS LANG YAN!
TOTOO ITO... KALAT NA KALAT NA, E!
ANO DAW?
AYAW IPASABI ITO.. KAYA 'WAG MONG IPAGSASABI
SA BEST FRIEND KO LANG... HINDI NAMAN TSISMOSA YUN, E.
ALAM MO BA..?
ALAM KO NA YAN... YUNG TUNGKOL KAY ANO!
LUMA NA YAN... ITO ANG BAGO
SECRET ITO... KAYA SA'YO KO LANG SASABIHIN
NASABI NA SA AKIN NG MISIS MO YAN!
HMM..
SHHH! ATIN-ATIN LANG ITONG SASABIHIN KO SA IYO, HA!
OO... MERON DIN AKONG ALAM TUNGKOL D'YAN
SABI NA NGA BA!
PAGKUMALAT ITO, KASALANAN NYO... KAYO LANG ANG NAPAGSABIHAN KO!

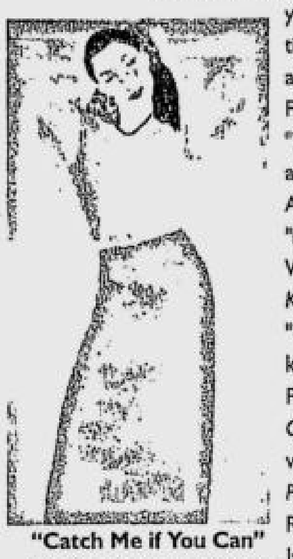
This Week

Art

Girls Night Out, recent paintings by Tito Roy, depict women as studies in feminine behavior and motivation. Until July 16 at The Drawing Room, Metrostar Building, 1007 Metropolitan Ave., Makati City.

Black and white landscape photographs by artist Pep Manalang. On view at The Drawing Room in Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Center, Makati, until July 19. Manalang took the photos using an antique medium format folding camera circa 1950s. For inquiries, call 898-1571 or 897-6990.

"New Artists + New Works = New York," a group show featuring Addie Cukingnan, Sandra Fabie-Gfeller, Azor Pazcougin, Doltz Pilar and Wally Sy in a pre-departure preview show on July 15 at the Renaissance Art Gallery, 4/F SM Megamall Bldg. A, Ortigas Center. Runs until August 3 after which the group heads for New York for the exhibit's formal opening on August 25 at the Philippine Center Gallery at 556 Fifth Avenue, New York City. The NY exhibit runs until September 5.



"Catch Me if You Can" by Tito Roy, on view at The Drawing Room

Music

"Music on the Walls" returns to Intramuros in "Variations," a concert featuring **The San Miguel Philharmonic Orchestra** with John Welsh, guest conductor, at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception (Manila Cathedral), Intramuros, Manila on July 18 at 8 p.m. Admission is free.

The last concert of the CCP Special Concerts Series billed as **"Kung Hindi Man...(Isang Gabi ng Kundiman)"** will be staged on Tuesday, July 15, 7:30 p.m. at the CCP Tanghalang Aurelio Tolentino (Little Theater). Ticket price is P500 with 50% discount for students and 20% discount for Senior Citizens. For ticket inquiries, call the CCP Marketing Department at 551-7930/832-3878/832-1125 loc. 1803 to 1806.

Onstage

The highly acclaimed New York-based **Ma-Yi Theater Company** will present its award-winning production of "The Romance of Magno Rubio" on July 16-27 at the Cultural Center of the Philippines' Tanghalang Huseng Batute as part of the Sangandaan Festival. For inquiries, call the CCP Performing Arts Department at 832-1125 local 1606-07.

Auditions for the first international production of Bobby Garcia's latest project, Urinetown will be on Saturday, July 19 at G/F Oppen Building, 349 Senator Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (registration begins at 10:30 a.m.) Prepare one musical theater song and bring the piano sheet or minus one and a recent photograph. For inquiries, call Atlantis Productions at 892-7078.

Cinema

The Cultural Center of the Philippines presents the Sangandaan 2003 **Fil-Am Film Festival** at the CCP Dream Theater until July 25 as part of Sangandaan 2003, a month-long festival of art and culture commemorating the centennial of the Filipino-American War and a hundred years of Filipino-American relations. Scheduled to be shown are: "Portrait of the Artist as a Filipino" by Lamberto Avellana, "*Tunay na Ina*" by Octavio Silos, and "Lollipops and Roses" by Artemio Marquez on July 15; "Bontoc Eulogy," "Savage Acts: Wars, Fairs and Empire," "*Giliw Ko*" by Carlos Vander Tolosa, and "*Tatlo, Dalawa, Isa*" by Lino Brocka on July 16; "Merika" by Gil Portes, "*Minsa'y Isang Gamu-Gamo*" by Lupita Aquino-Kashiwahara, "*Ganito Kami Noon, Paano Kayo Ngayon?*" by Eddie Romero, and "*Batang* PX" by Jose Javier Reyes on July 17; "A Filipino in America," "Two Bells," "Silencio," "Disoriented" and "American Adobo" by Laurice Guillen on July 18; "The Real Glory," "Back to Bataan," "Bontoc Eulogy," and "Savage Acts" on July 24; "*Anak Dalita*" by Lamberto Avellana, "*Sana Maulit Muli*" by Olivia Lamasan, "*Alas, Hari at Sota*" by Armando Herrera and "*Minsa'y Isang Gamu-Gamo*" on July 25. Screening hours are 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m., and 8 p.m. For inquiries, call the CCP Film Office at 832-1125 locals 1704-05.

Food

Makati Shangri-La's Shang Palace offers an **all-new dim sum selection** for lunch until July 31 from Hongkong native and Shang Palace dim sum chef Yip Kam Wing. For inquiries and reservations, call Makati Shangri-La's Restaurant Reservations and Information Center at 840-0884 or 813-8888 ext. 7588/7599.

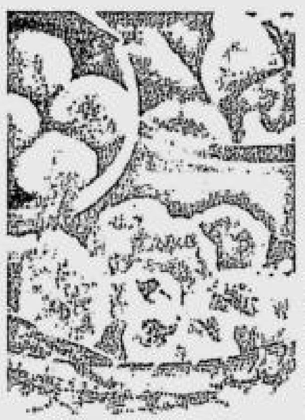
Atbp

The Fountain Area (South Court) of the Power Plant at Rockwell, Makati City becomes a haven for wedding related products and services when it hosts **Elegant Weddings Yr. 3**, on July 19-20 from 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

IBON Foundation, Inc. holds Ibon Midyear Birdtalk, a semi-annual forum on economic and political assessments and trends on July 15, 1-5 p.m. at PSSC Auditorium PSSC Bldg., Commonwealth Ave., Quezon City. Registration fee is P125 inclusive of food and briefing paper. Please confirm your attendance to Mario, Mena or Gina at 713-2729/713-2737/7130912 or e-mail ibonred@info.com.ph. For updates, visit the IBON website at http://www.ibon.org

New York-bound artists: Azor Pazcoguin, Addie Cukingnan, Doltz Pilar, Sandra Gfeller and Wally Sy

Open House of the 18th Avenue Artists Compound presents Big Sky Mind Artists Projects Foundation's first batch of resident artists. Included are Ronald Anading, Lena Cobangbang, Louie Cordero, Cubao Community Graphics, Jayson Oliveria, and Marjorie Yu. The 18th Avenue Artists Compound is located at 70 18th Avenue, Murphy, Cubao, Quezon City. For inquiries, call 421-2125 or e-mail big_sky_mind@hotmail.com. Office Hours: Wednesday - Saturday, 9 a.m. - 12 nn, 4 - 7 p.m.



Dim sum creations at Makati Shangri-La's Shang Palace

Better Eyesight Seminar. Relearn the correct habits of seeing with the Bates method of natural eyesight improvement. Workshop classes begin July 19, at 10 a.m. For inquiries, call In-Touch Community Services at 893-7606 / 810-6233.

There will be a Starting **Preschool/Child Care Center Seminar** on July 19-20 (Sat. & Sun.) 8 a.m. - 4 p.m./12nn - 7 p.m. at the ACCM Bldg. 102 Valero St. Salcedo Village, Makati City. Limited slots available. Seminar fee is P9995 inclusive of course workbook, meal, snacks and certificate. For details, call 823-2615 or text 0919-8270776.

X-manila

Nui Restobar in San Carlos City, Negros Occidental presents **"Panan-aw"** by Eric Cabales, Allan dela Fuente, and Bro. Tagoy Jakosalem, OAR, until July 30.

For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas. St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules.

Giving Guide

Three for the Kids

Believe it or not, it's nearing Christmas again and what better way to celebrate the spirit of giving than by giving to those truly in need? Starting this week, SIM will feature non-profit groups that always appreciate any kind of help for their needy wards. It is never too early to begin the season of giving to the less fortunate. Let's start now.

1. Kabalikat ng Pamilyang Pilipino Foundation: Benefits community-based youth and sponsors a yearly Christmas party for 250 youth beneficiaries. They need: small gift items for youth aged 13-19, school supplies, art materials, reading materials, chairs and tables, computer units and printers. For donations, call 438-0171

2. KYTHE, Inc.: Works year-round with children afflicted with cancer. KYTHE needs the following: medical supplies, wheelchairs, arts and craft supplies, board games, cassette players, transistor radios, toys and pop cassette tapes, among others. For donations, call 922-6370.

3. Childhope Asia Philippines: Sponsors Christmas parties for street children in Manila, Makati, Quezon City and Pasay. Childhope is in need of gift items such as clothes, toys, books and toiletries for children aged 9-16, as well as food, art supplies and medicines. For donations, call 561-7118 or 563-4647.

Love Notes

By Joe D' Mango

The Boyfriend or the Girlfriend

I'm engaged to be married but I'm still having a hard time getting over my last relationship. I would have married her but it's not possible, because I'm also a girl

Dear Joe,

I feel awkward writing you but I was really touched by something you said last episode, when you said something about "letting go when you need to hold on and holding on when you need to let go." I'm engaged to be married, but I'm still having a hard time getting over my last relationship. I would have married her, but it's not possible, because I'm also a girl.

Don't get me wrong, I'm in love with this guy I'm about to marry but I can't give him my whole heart because my ex-best friend keeps popping into my head every time I get lonely. The fact that my fiancé is living in the United States isn't helping, either.

After two months of restraint, I called up my ex. I couldn't tell her what I was going through, how much I had missed her. I ended the two-minute call because I felt like I was disrupting her life. She was obviously fine without me.

I know now there's nothing wrong with my ex or with my boyfriend, but there's something wrong with me. I realize that I hadn't gotten over her. I feel like I don't deserve my fiancé's pure love.

I remember living with my ex in an apartment for half a year. It was something new to both of us. We didn't think we were lesbians or bisexuals, because we were never attracted to other girls before. We just fell in love, and we didn't see any problem at that time. I eventually realized that we could never be proud of our relationship.

So I thought the best way to get away from someone I still loved was to get back with my old boyfriend. This guy and I had a connection, but I didn't have the heart to kick her out of the apartment. Sleeping in different beds, I thought I could handle her, but she proved to be the greatest temptation of my life. Yes, I cheated on him.

It almost tore me and my boyfriend apart but I begged him to forgive me. He hadn't really recovered but he still asked me to marry him. I'm still waiting for a couple of months before joining him in US but it's turning out to be the most crucial wait of all.

How do I stop thinking about her? I need to do this so I can devote myself to my future husband who rightfully deserves all my love.

Zen

Dear Zen,

I remember being asked once if it is wrong to fall in love with a person of the same sex. It was a tough question, considering the implications of what my answer could bring.

I remember saying that that there is nothing wrong with falling in love. It is what people do when they are in love that can make it all wrong. Zen, more often than not, God gauges our resolve to settle down and tests our relationships for little holes that could leak during marriage. He knows the conflict that is still unsettled inside you and maybe He just wants to make sure you really are serious about marrying your boyfriend.

Your boyfriend was your perfect excuse, but getting back with him didn't change what you felt for your girlfriend. Now you are in a dilemma because you jumped into something that you weren't sure about.

Zen, what makes you different from others in the same situation is that you know what is right for you. You are just being taken aback by a past that you haven't forgotten yet. It might help being away from your friend when you join your future husband in the States. But what you can really count on is your determination to make a difference in your life by choosing not what you feel is right but what know and believe will be good for you and your future.

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Dressmaking/Pattern-Cutting & Design
Effective English
Electric Motor Repairman
Electronic Instrumentation & Control
Electronic Service Technician
Electronics Engineering
English Proficiency & Speech Improvement
Fitness & Nutrition
Freelance Journalism
Freelance Writer
General Drafting
Gunsmith
Hotel & Restaurant Management
Industrial Instrumentation & Process Control Technician
Industrial Management
Interior Decorator
Interior Design
Inventory Management & Control
Java Programmer
Marketing Management
Master Electrician
Master Motorcycle Repair
Mathematics Review Course
PC Fundamentals
Personal Computer Repair
Power Plant Engineering
Practical English
Professional Secretary
Professional Electrician
Public Relations
Short Story Writing
Small Business Management
Structural Engineering
Teacher Aide
Technical Writing
Telecommunications Technician
TV/VCR Repair
Visual Basic Programmer
Visual C++ Programmer
Web Page Designer

USA DEGREE PROGRAMS
Accounting
Applied Computer Science
Business Management
Electrical Engineering
Electronics Technology
Industrial Engineering
Mechanical Engineering

HIGH SCHOOL (YEAR 1 TO 4)

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SMART Buddy 64K Super SIM 2 users can instantly access SMART's exciting services like STARTXT and Pick Of The Week Logos and Ringtones, plus the Extra Inbox Password Protection feature by downloading the menu for FREE.

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*Just key in **UPDATE SS** and send to **343**.*

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For questions, comments, or concerns, you may call the SMART Hotline at 888-1111, send a text message to 888 (P1.00 per message sent in excess of the FREE TEXT allocation), e-mail us at customercare@smart.com.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

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